

IN SEARCH OF ROMAN EWELL

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INTRODUCTION

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The student or the general reader who seeks information on Roman Ewell has never found the task a straightforward one. Books of general local history usually deal with the period in a summary manner and authoritative works, such as the volumes of the Victoria County History of Surrey published earlier in this century, deal only with those excavations and discoveries which took place in the nineteenth century, S.E. Winbolt in his book, 'With a Spade on Stane Street' (1934), devotes a chapter or more to the course of the Roman road across Ewell. In an interesting appendix he lists discoveries up to and including the early 1930s and attempts a largely hypothetical reconstruction of the Roman station. Whilst it is fair to say that this book still remains a valuable contribution to our knowledge of Stane Street, there are those who would now seriously challenge many of the author's claims concerning Roman Ewell.

The reader's problem is not that there is a lack of information, but where this widely disseminated information is to be found. Undoubtedly one of the best sources, at least for the first half of this century, is found in the annual volumes of the Surrey Archaeological Collections published by the Surrey Archaeological Society. Unfortunately, this necessitates the careful checking of each volume issued since that time. Since 1960, the most up-to-date information on excavation and discovery is provided by the various 'Bulletins' and 'Newsletters' issued by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society.

In the opening chapters of this book I have collected many of the most significant references, summarising reports and accounts of archaeological investigation and discovery since 1847 with the inclusion of some previously unpublished material. The remainder of the book deals with my investigations concerning the evidence of prior habitation during the Roman occupation from local disturbed soil surfaces. This research has lasted for more than a decade and embraces a fairly wide area, firstly, in the grounds belonging to Bourne Hall and Glyn House, and secondly, on a number of building sites where full archaeological excavation, for one reason or another, was impracticable.

From the evidence of excavation, discovery and my own research, I have formed certain theories concerning Roman Ewell which I have attempted to outline. These theories may be unacceptable to some, but they seem to be reasonably supported by the total evidence. I am, of course, well aware that archaeological purists are apt to discount soil surfaces, but in Ewell, whenever such areas have been subsequently excavated in depth the reason for the surface indication has been abundantly clear. The movement and even the importing of soil during landscaping operations over a long period can obviously lead to wrong conclusions being drawn from surface finds in a limited area; but it is not feasible to suggest that earth movement of this kind could account for more than a fraction of the finds from so large an area as Ewell Village.

Our knowledge of Roman Ewell has increased during the past forty years. There have been several excavations, minor investigations, much discovery and fieldwork. The Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, formerly the Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society, has been formed and a museum built at Bourne Hall where much of the material evidence can be housed and

displayed meaningfully. There is an ever-increasing interest being shown in archaeology and local history with a resulting demand for fuller up-to-date information. I believe there is present need for a book on Roman Ewell and I sincerely trust that 'In Search of Roman Ewell' may at least answer some of that need.

A.H. Jenkins
Stoneleigh 1973

CHAPTER I

There is little doubt that Ewell, blessed with its rich stretch of agricultural land and its abundant springs, was a chosen and much coveted place of human settlement even in pre-Roman times and when astute Roman surveyors and engineers constructed Stane Street, which was to become one of the chief commercial arteries in the South East, through its midst, its future growth and prosperity was assured. This can be said now, but at the beginning of the nineteenth century, when there was little archaeological expertise but a great deal of antiquarian armchair theorising, many wild claims were made based either on the flimsiest of evidence or on no evidence at all.

Early in the nineteenth century, a certain James Puttock of Epsom held very definite ideas concerning Roman Ewell and the course of Stane Street and stated these in letters to the Gentleman's Magazine for 1838 and 1841 and to the British Archaeological Association. By that time he was able to report that 'Roman coins and human bones' had been found at Ewell in 'abundance'. Writing to William Bray, joint author with Owen Manning of the History and Antiquities of Surrey (1804), who, with Camden believed that Stane Street crossed the Epsom and Banstead Downs to Woodcote near Carshalton, claiming it to be the Roman station of Noviomagus, Puttock states:

'The opinion I contended for was that this old road led from Leatherhead, where so much of it is still visible, to Ewell.

The road over these Downs does not point toward Woodcote, but directly towards Ewell. Roman coins have been found at that place and human bones have been dug up in the parish near the road to Epsom: it is very eligible in point of distance from Dorking and for the purity of its water; the name of the place I consider to be of British origin. Tradition gives the place a claim to antiquity and consequence.'

In reply to Puttock's letter, Bray agreed that he liked the idea of tracing Stane Street to Ewell.

James Puttock became determined to try and discover the Roman name for Ewell turning his attention to the names of Roman towns and settlements listed in the 'Cosmography' attributed to an anonymous geographer of Ravenna. He found the list copious and confused but on further study became convinced that a number of places mentioned consecutively

'Must have had reference to the towns and stations upon those Roman roads that passed through Surrey and Sussex.'

It is possible that Puttock also made reference to the Antonine Itinerary and finding that it contained no mention of Stane Street, deduced that the date of its construction occurred later than the Antonine period.

Early in 1839, Puttock submitted his views on the Roman occupation of Surrey to a certain Mr. Britton with the intention of assisting him in a history of the County that the latter had been invited to undertake. Britton, however, was unable to carry out this project and it was then taken in hand by Edward Brayley. In his original communication to Britton, Puttock again stated his opinions concerning Roman Ewell with the assumption that it was called Canca in the Ravenna geographer's list and added,

“in placing Canca at Ewell, I may be expected to account for a wide difference in the names. I certainly have some reasons to give for this, but which I think will not appear to others very satisfactory, so for the present I will conceal them.”

In 1841, Puttock's letter to the Gentleman's Magazine again restated his opinions concerning Roman Ewell without adding anything substantially new. Some confirmation for those opinions came in 1847 when a series of cylindrically shaped pits or shafts were discovered at Ewell during chalk quarrying. These pits extended deeply into the chalk and varied both in depth and width, being from 12 to 37 feet deep and from 2 feet 2 inches to 4 feet in diameter. The site, although it had never been accurately pinpointed was described as being situated 'on what had been the slope of a hill with an aspect towards the west', the property of the late Sir George Lewen Glyn. It is now generally recognised as the area of land which extends behind 'Staneway House' and 'Pit House' and includes land now occupied by Seymour's Nurseries. S.E. Winbolt, however, in his book 'With a Spade on Stane Street', is rather more specific and places the shafts immediately behind 'Pit House'.

Six shafts were investigated in 1847 by Dr. Hugh Welch Diamond, who discovered that two of the pits had been disturbed and that two others which had previously been discovered were no longer traceable. These shafts were found to contain the following remains at successive levels in approximately uniform arrangement.

- LEVEL I Large animal bones belonging to heifers, sheep, stag and swine

- LEVEL II Decorated Samian ware: some pieces capable of being assembled to form complete vessels, other still containing repair rivets of lead. Several sherds signed with potters' names (see Appendix II).

- LEVEL III Was composed of fine rich mould and contained animal matter, together with oyster, mussel and snail shells. The last pit contained apple pips and cherry stones, a small bronze ring, bones of a cockerel, a rabbit or hare and the complete skeleton of a large dog, whose head had been severed and placed at a foot's distance from the remainder of the body. In the corresponding layer in the other pits were brooches (fibulae), fragments of glass, some of quadrangular shape. There were also pieces of decayed bronze reported as comprising part of the trappings of a man or horse.

- LEVEL IV Fragments of imported amphorae: (large vessels generally used as containers for wine and olive oil) and other vessels of light-coloured ware.

- LEVEL V Vessels of dark-coloured ware of various patterns, texture and ornament. Several of the vessels were complete and large quantities of charcoal and metal conglomerate were found mixed with the soil in which the vessels were embedded; and in every pit an equal quantity of nails together with the bones of mice, frogs and toads. At the bottom of another pit, an iron rod measuring 2 feet 8 inches in length and decorated at each end; also a piece of iron with a cavity resembling a modern pipe. In the centre of yet another pit were several round flint

stones, one of which had been reduced to roundness. An iron hammer was also discovered and two small oak stakes 18 inches long and sharpened at each end. A few fragments of burnt human bone were found in association with the dark-coloured ware mentioned above. All animal bones from the pits were unburnt.

The finds from the excavations were deposited with the British Museum and listed in their Acquisitions Register. A transcript detailing the pottery fragments makes quaint reading then compared with modern ceramic description. Photographs show that at least four bowls of decorated Samian ware of Dragendorff Form 37 have been reassembled from fragments.

One unusual vessel, recovered undamaged, was a vase of thin material, glazed inside and out. The glaze was found to contain lead: it was of a bright green colour and on the exterior walls 'stripes of white or yellow (glaze) has been laid upon it. This type of Roman vessel is exceedingly rare in this country and was probably an import from St. Remy-en-Rollat in Gaul, where it was manufactured during the first century A.D.

Apart from the listing and reassembling of some of the fragments into complete vessels, the exhibition of these and their illustration by a Mr Archer, the pottery seems to have received little further attention. It has been suggested to archaeological societies only recently that, in view of the cost of modern excavation they might well engage in a complete re-examination of the products of earlier excavations in their respective localities. Such a re-examination of material taken from the Ewell shafts in 1847, in the light of our present knowledge of Roman ceramics, and its comparison with other pottery from local stratified deposits could prove extremely rewarding. This exercise seems to me so imperative that one wonders why it has not been undertaken before.

A very verbose report of the 1847 excavation was made by Dr. Diamond in the form of a letter to Edward Hawkins, F.R.S., F.S.A. with a request that it be brought to the notice of the Society of Antiquaries. This was done and it was subsequently published in *Archaeologia*, Vol. 32 (1848). This report differs widely from modern archaeological reports. It makes little attempt to describe the finds in detail and there are no illustrations appended; in fact the informed reader receives the distinct impression that the finds from the excavation were considered to be of little importance. The greater part of Dr Diamond's letter concerns itself with the probable original purpose of the pits. As one might expect, at that time, many theories were put forward, some thought the shafts were burial places of the poor, the unprivileged, the slave, the alien and the criminal, others expressed the opinion that these were repositories for grain, or wells, or as having some ritualistic significance, as they were similar in shape and content to other pits that had already been located at London, Winchester, Chesterford, Reculver, Maidstone and the Isle of Thanet.

It is possible that the Ewell shafts were originally sunk for none of these reasons. They were discovered during chalk quarrying: may not this have been as good a reason any for their construction in the first century A.D. or even before that time? The value of processing chalk into lime for both agricultural and building purposes was known in Britain well before the Claudian invasion. During the Roman occupation, the demand for this valuable natural deposit must have increased very considerably. Ultimately, when the shafts became too deep for safe working, they were abandoned but continued to serve a growing community as ideal places for rubbish disposal.

It is obvious from his report that Dr. Diamond did not accept the 'rubbish hole' theory, from which it can be reasonably assumed that there were those who thought that the pits had originally been dug for that purpose. Firstly, Dr. Diamond contends that cremated human bones were found in the pits but surely, the small number of such remains is insufficient to lend any weight to a 'burial site' theory. Secondly, he underlines 'the uniformity of arrangement' of the contents of each pit and, if this were so, it would support the view that these were 'ritual pits'. Thirdly, Dr. Diamond states that there was an absence in the pits of any article being entirely restricted to domestic use and while this is partly true, it is obvious from the types of pottery discovered that some of these vessels were more generally used for domestic reasons than for any other purpose. It may, perhaps, be wisest to infer, as Dr. Diamond did, if somewhat reluctantly, that 'no adequate explanation of their (the pits) use has yet been assigned.'

In the concluding paragraphs of the report Dr. Diamond claims that the Romans were obviously stationed at Ewell for a long period of time and that in all probability it could be the Noviomagus of the Antonine Itinerary. As this was the era of claim and counter-claim, it is not surprising that James Puttock enters the argumentative arena once more. In October and December 1848, he contributed two letters to the British Archaeological Association which were published in a volume of its Journal for that year. In the first note he makes no fresh claims, but re-states his belief that Roman Ewell was a settlement of considerable importance and that Dr. Diamond's excavation of the shafts in 1847 completely confirms that view. Note two is entirely concerned with rebuffing Dr. Diamond's theory that Ewell was the site of Noviomagus and goes on to outline his reasons for believing it to be the Canca of the Ravenna Cosmography.

"The name Canca," states Puttock, which may not be accurately written in the Geographer's list) "is retained in Cheam in the immediate neighbourhood of Ewell. All the names of places (at least in Surrey) in Domesday Book, beginning with C are now written and pronounced as CH for this initial; and vice versa, those written in that Record with CH at their beginning, are now written with, or have the force of K. Places that were unquestionably which I thus account for – When the Saxons divided the land of this country amongst themselves, such portion of it as had, prior to that period, been included in the name of the contiguous station, became two, three or even more distinct manors or estates, each requiring a separate name, These the Saxons arbitrarily gave and we often find the name of an old station retained in some place in its immediate neighbourhood, while the nucleus of the station has obtained some Saxon or other name."

Unfortunately, Puttock's claim that the Roman Canca and Ewell were synonymous has been quoted so many times with and without qualification for the past century that it has almost become an accepted fact. Let it be said that existing evidence in no way supports James Puttock's theory; on the contrary, a study of the British Section of the latest edition of the Ravenna Cosmography by Richmond, Crawford and Williams (1953) places Cana or Canca either in Dorset or East Devon.

Few, however, who have carried out research on Roman Ewell would quarrel with Puttock that it was a place of some importance. It most probably occupied a larger acreage than either Hardham or Alfoldean, Roman stations situated on Stane Street. Material evidence from scientific excavation, from systematic searching of its disturbed soil surfaces and from chance discovery, suggest that there was considerable and extensive occupation

here, so much so, that the current edition of the Ordnance Survey Map of Roman Britain lists Roman Ewell as an area 'of major habitation.'

In 1860, two more pits were found on the Pit House site; these were situated at about two yards from the last shaft opened by Dr. Diamond in 1847. These shafts were some 30 feet from the surface and measured 3 feet 3 inches in diameter and, on excavation were found to be filled with mould mixed with flint, pottery sherds and pieces of iron.

Six years later, Romano-British pottery was again discovered to the south of Staneway House; the exact position of this site, which seems again not to have been recorded, must lie very near to the pits investigated by Dr. Diamond. Further pottery evidence was also uncovered in 1866 behind the old G.P.O. building in the High Street. There appear to be no records of the number or type of vessels. The site is marked on the 50 inch O.S. maps and in volumes of the *Surrey Archaeological Collections*. Winbolt mentions the location as being '7 chains north of Ewell Grove.' He also records the discovery of a spear-head together with pottery of the third and fourth centuries mentioned in the *Archaeology of England* by Kendrick and Hawkes. These remains were said to have been found in association with a inhumation burial, but again, there is no given location.

The latter decades of the nineteenth century seem to have been sterile years as far as the discovery of Roman remains is concerned. I, personally, find this hard to believe. Recently I have been able to establish that 22 Roman coins were found by a Mr Albert Wood, once employed as gardener at the Rectory Garden. I understand that these coins were found at various times during seasonal digging, either just prior to, or at the turn of the century. At this time, Ewell still possessed its large stately homes with their attractive grounds and gardens. These gardens were carefully tended, and while it is understandable that both gardeners and their assistants might overlook fragments of Roman pottery in ignorance, finds of coins in a fair state of preservation would have been carefully pocketed, sold or given away, or, as S.E. Winbolt feared, put away for safe keeping and subsequently forgotten. In his letter-report Dr. Diamond recounts the circumstances leading to the discovery of the Ewell shafts in 1847. A workman employed by a Mr William Brown engaged in chalk quarrying discovered a complete pottery vessel at a depth of about 20 feet from the surface. Expecting that the vessel might contain something of value he immediately broke it with his pick axe only to find the contents consisted only of mould mixed with charcoal. The unlucky labourer, however, did have the good sense to report the incident to his employer who immediately consulted Sir George Lewen Glyn, the owner of the land – this led to the first recorded excavation at Ewell. With this in mind, I think it can be assumed that there may well have been other occasions involving the discovery of historic remains when nothing was ever said and important material evidence was lost.

At the close of the last century Stane Street continued to be a topic of interest among antiquarians. Charles Warne stated that the line of the road could be made out in a field called Twelve Acre Piece for some 200 yards and pointed towards the Church and the vicarage. Roach Smith, in a letter to Albany Major, dated 1876 claimed that Stane Street 'was visible in a field adjoining the Reigate Road'. It was thought by Albany Major that the field mentioned was the one 'bounded on the north-east by the Reigate Road and on the south-east by the Southern Railway' (i.e. the Croydon Line).

In his book, 'With a Spade on Stane Street', published many years later, S.E. Winbolt, speaking of the discovery of pieces of old road, said that belief is lost unless a detailed report

is made to give authority to the discovery. He goes on to say that even when reports are made, such is the prevailing scepticism of the modern archaeologist that when time passes without confirmatory evidence the report sinks into oblivion. There was obviously much vague reporting and theorising appertaining not only to Ewell but elsewhere during the nineteenth century, and much of this has sunk into its rightful oblivion; however, in view of the fact that the science of archaeology was so new and many antiquarians unschooled in its essential disciplines, it must be said that it is quite remarkable that so much of their thinking has since been proven by scientific excavation to be not so very far from the truth.

CHAPTER II

In 1903 three skeletons were discovered in the grounds of Garbrand Hall (now Bourne Hall). Once again no record of the exact find spot of these human remains seems to exist, nor is it positively certain whether or not they were of Roman date.

Ten years later, however, one more complete skeleton, the greater part of a fifth and the top portion of the skull of a sixth came to light and Romano-British pottery, including a complete jar with a small foot which measured 4 $\frac{11}{16}$ inches high and 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, together with many fragments of glass, were found. Other finds included the bronze pan of a pair of scales, a crudely carved knife handle of bone, thought to be of early date, two bronze coins belonging to the reign of Edward III and a tile 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches square.

The pottery jar mentioned above was identified as a type of vessel used in the fourth century, but the tile was thought by the British Museum authorities not to be of Roman date. No mention is made of the find spot for this material, but the occasion was made the subject of a short note to the *Surrey Archaeological Collections* by the late H.E. Malden from information given to him by Henry Willis of Garbrand Hall. It is stated in this note that the skeletons may date back to a cavalry skirmish in 1648, when Royalists retreating through Ewell were overtaken by a troop of Livesey's and Audley's Horse, and goes on to add that the place where the skeletons were discovered 'is close to the road on which the troops were moving'. This clue is of no great help as the grounds of Bourne Hall are completely surrounded by roads. S.E. Winbolt is not much clearer; he mentions the discovery of Roman pottery and glass and some burials being discovered in the north-west quarter of the grounds in 1913. It is true that this note narrows down the find spot quite considerably but it is still not specific enough for the requirements of modern archaeology. Confusion still exists as to whether the Roman pottery was or was not associated with the burials, or whether the human remains were in fact examined by a specialist. If they were studied, then it should surely have been possible to distinguish between 4th century and 17th century skeletons.

It was during the early years of the present century that the attention of archaeologists and historians became focussed on the Roman road system in the British Isles. This was largely due to the pioneer survey of Thomas Codrington, whose book, 'Roman roads in Britain' appeared in 1903. It is now superseded by the work of Ivan Margery, but at that time Codrington's book did much to promote research and stimulate interest in this all-important subject.

In Sussex and Surrey, Stane Street, which it is thought was constructed not earlier than 50 A.D. and not later than 70 A.D. between Chichester and London Bridge, became firstly a topic for academic discussion and much unacademic conjecture, and secondly, the object of continuous scientific investigation. In 1913, Hilaire Belloc published 'Stane Street', a well-written and readable book, but one in which the author expressed many controversial theories and made many rash statements. It was on account of Belloc's rather careless treatment of orientation and alignment of the road that W.A. Grant, an Ordnance Survey Officer, took up the cudgels and produced a detailed criticism of Belloc's book in his 'Topography of Stane Street' in 1922.

For some time the date of the road's construction was in doubt. It was thought that as no mention was made of it in the 'Antonine Itinerary' the date could not have been prior to the mid-third century A.D., but as Lieu-Col. H.F. Bidder points out it 'depends upon whether the

Itinerary is regarded as a log or a gazetteer.' It is not my purpose here to enumerate or comment upon the spate of theories put forward at that time concerning the alignment of Stane Street as it enters, traverses and leaves Ewell. I merely wish to say that these only served to create and stimulate interest to such a degree that when the opportunity for archaeological excavation presented itself, there were those enthusiasts who were ready and able to see the matter through successfully, but this did not occur until the 1930's.

The next important addition to our knowledge of Roman Ewell and its environs came in May 1922 when a tile-kiln was discovered on the site of the Green Man Farm estate at Horton (TQ 196 620) during the construction of a mental hospital. The kiln was of the 'cross wall' type with its surrounding wall in a good state of preservation. Instead of the more common single flue, this kiln possessed two, side by side, each about 24 inches wide. Unfortunately, no dating material was found in association with the kiln, but it was thought that it functioned at about the same time as the tile industry at Ashted, of which it was probably part. At the Ashted kiln, the period of activity was from about 70 – 150 A.D. This local discovery was of paramount importance as it showed conclusive evidence of industrial activity in the neighbourhood during the late first and early second century.

Although there is now sufficient evidence to support the theory that Roman Ewell was a place of some importance, it is disappointing that, to date, no sizeable cemetery had been located. These, and smaller groups of burials, are normally found outside the boundaries of occupation sites and at no great distance from the roads approaching or leaving these areas. Apart from the human remains discovered in the grounds of Garbrand Hall in 1913, if these were indeed of Roman date, the largest group of burials was unearthed in the Brickfield (now a built-up area known as Dirdene Gardens (TQ 216 612) which in 1923 belonged to Messrs, Stone and Co. Ltd. on the Ewell boundary with Epsom.

The first burial was discovered in the February of that year and a second and third in the following July and October. All the burials were in line from south-west to south-east at intervals of 8 yards. The depth of the first two was at 5 feet and the third at 3 feet. The cinerary vessels were in fragments when uncovered and had previously been disturbed. The method of burial was to place the cremated remains in a small pottery vessel whose neck had been knocked away in order to give a large enough aperture to admit the smaller vessel. The aperture was then sealed, either by replacing the fractured top of the amphora (usually a large globular-shaped type was used) or by inverting a complete bowl or dish over the cavity.

In each of the three 'Brickfield' burials the globular amphora was used, this was common in the second century. The second burial was rather unusual in that the inner cinerary vessel was of bluish-tinted glass and possessed a folded rim. This glass had a thickness of approximately one-eighth of an inch and was unusually clear when compared with other examples of Roman glass vessels. Deposits of calcined bone were found with each burial. Coins were also found, some too worn to be positively identified, but two were in a fair state of preservation and belonged to the reigns of CLAUDIUS I (41-54 A.D.) and TRAJAN (98-117 A.D.)

The date of this burial group according to the British Museum, to whom the pottery and glass was presented, was late second century. Mr H.T.Cox, Manager of the Brickfield at that time, was congratulated, and rightly so, for bring these discoveries to the notice of a competent authority. At the conclusion of the report, published in the *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, it was suggested that this group might form part of a large group of burials or even a cemetery and that site might well repay excavation. In the absence of any further

information concerning this site during the ensuing years, it must be inferred that no further excavation took place and until the final closure of the Brickfield, no other discoveries were made. It is, however, gratifying to learn that the far-sighted manager, when offering the finds to the British Museum, did so on condition that they be returned should a local museum be built.

In October, 1933, road metalling was discovered at one foot below the road surface during the digging of sewer trenches in Church Street, opposite Ewell Castle School. This metalling was composed of 9 inches of flint grouted in with chalk on a foundation of 9 inches of rammed chalk. So little of the road was uncovered that its direction was doubtful. In the centre of the piece of exposed road was a much greater depth of flint as if the road had been once repaired. In letters published in the 'Times, S.E. Winbolt first stated that this piece of road was a part of Stane Street, but subsequently changed his opinion. It is also stated in a volume of the *Surrey Archaeological Collections* that those who saw the road were in general agreement that it was more likely to be part of the substructure of the present road which was the old coach road through Ewell until 1834.

The 1930s witnessed great changes in the landscape of Ewell Village. Large estates were sold and re-developed and stately houses like Ewell Manor demolished. Capt. A.W.G. Lowther of Ashted obtained permission to excavate first of all on the Ewell House Estate and then from the developers on the site of the Old Fair Field. Prior to Capt. Lowther's excavation on the Ewell House site, investigations had already taken place in 1930 and 1932, when a Saxon cemetery was found to extend over a large part of this area. The finds made in 1930 and 1932 included both cremation and inhumation burials. Five burials were excavated and others were recorded as having been found by workmen during building operations. Mr G.C. Dunning, who was in charge of these excavations and whose reports appear in a volume of *Archaeologia*, mentions the presence of Roman pottery and building material on the site which caused him to suggest that there was probably a Roman building in the near vicinity. This was to be reiterated only a few years later by Professor A.S. Frere who encountered a Roman boundary ditch during excavation in the orchard at the rear of Ewell Grove County First School, some short distance to the north of the Ewell House site.

The first trench cut by Capt. Lowther in 1934 exposed part of a V-shaped ditch with Roman pottery and tile in its silt, and showed that geologically the site was mainly composed of Thanet Sand with a layer of gravel on the higher ground to the south. The remainder of the excavation consisted in cutting a second trench in an effort to trace the direction of the ditch. Simultaneously, foundation trenches were being dug for the second house and these showed that the ditch ran straight across the site. Once again a considerable amount of material of Roman date was encountered in the ditch silt of Trench II. Amongst the pottery was a large fragment of Samian ware belonging to a 'wall' type mortarium of Form 45. This fragment was dateable to circa 250 A.D. Other pottery sherds were earlier and some contemporary with the sherd of Samian pottery pointing to a date in the second half of the third century for the construction of the ditch. The dimensions of the were 7 feet in width and 3 feet deep as observed; originally they must have been considerably greater. No coins were reported as being found during the excavations; it is therefore interesting to note here that the two Roman coins given to me by the late Mr. C. Major, who was for some years gardener at Ewell House. One was a third brass of CLAUDIUS II (Gothicus), a commemorative issue minted after his death in 270 A.D.; the other is a bronze coin of CONSTANTINE I, or one of his sons, belonging to the fourth century.

At approximately the centre of the Old Fair Field, a road, consisting of compact gravel and sand, was found in 1934. The trench disclosing this road cut the road obliquely and uncovered some 50 feet of it. The Roman ditch discovered on the Ewell House site would be roughly at right angles to the line of this road. Under the direction of S.E. Winbolt, four other trenches were dug to the north of the first trench, in an effort to establish the direction of the road. This further excavation was successful, the road being found in all four cuttings and in a sewer trench on the southern boundary of the field. The main findings of this excavation of Stane Street may be briefly summarised:-

- I The road's metalling rested directly on chalk.
- II. Its maximum thickness in the centre of the field was 2 feet and the road was laid out between guide trenches.
- III. The make-up of the metalling was coarse gravel and sand containing fragments of Roman brick and a number of worked flint flakes.
- IV. No dateable material was encountered in the road apart from the brick fragments, one piece of flanged roofing tile and stamped flue tile similar to those manufactured at Ashted in the second century.
- V. Three bronze coins of Tetricus (3rd century) and of Constans (4th century) were also found during the excavation, together with part of a dish of plain Samian ware of Form 18/31 of second century date, and numerous fragments of coarse wares.
- VI. Post holes of timber structures were observed underlying the road and carrying down into the chalk. Four of these crossed the road diagonally. But time did not permit further investigation.

Further activity concerning Stane Street was now directed some distance to the north, where a row of shops (now known as Castle Parade) was being built at a point where Ewell By-pass meets the London Road. Road metalling, similar to that found under the Old Fair Field was discovered in a foundation trench at the back of one of the buildings and again in a stanchion pit along the front of it. Consent having been sought, a second trench was cut at the back of this building and disclosed yet more road metalling containing Roman brick at a depth of 1 foot 9 inches; the road was approximately 25 feet wide at this point. One coin was found and was thought to belong to the reign of Domitian (81-96 A.D.) On the opposite of the By-pass there were also traces of the road where the land was being cut back for the construction of a petrol station, until recently owned by Messrs. Dawniers. These four points gave an alignment for Stane Street that fell within the wooded plantation which borders Nonsuch Park on the London Road. Here, a fraction to the north of the Briarwood and London Roads, there is an elongated mound, thought to be an agger, which had already been observed and traceable within the plantation for about 100 yards northwards towards North Cheam.

It was in 1935 that Capt. Lowther proved by excavation that this suspected agger was indeed part of Stane Street. The 'causeway' was 25 feet in width and was found to consist of earthy clay mixed with large chalk flints. Two pottery fragments of Romano-British coarse ware were found in this stratum, but were the only objects found. Large chalk flints formed the

foundation of the 'causeway' and extended a short distance into the underlying dark grey silt. This silt was of a regular depth of 2 feet and rested on a natural spread of large gravel flints overlaying undisturbed orange-coloured clay.

At about this time excavations also showed that Stane Street continued across an area of land about to be built on between Monger's Lane and the Reigate Road. Winbolt states that the centre of Stane Street crosses the fence on the northern side of Monger's Lane 65 feet from the Reigate Road corner. The soil here has been obviously imported to the area. Beneath a topsoil of 3 feet Stane Street was found in a good state of preservation with a maximum thickness of 2 feet 6 inches. The topmost 6 inches had been disturbed and was mixed with soil, fragments of Roman pottery, brick and medieval green-glazed ware. The remaining 2 feet of metalling was found undisturbed and consisted of compact gravel and large flints.

In the period, 1934-1936, S.E. Winbolt records that pottery of Roman ware was discovered in both No.3 and No.4 Graveyards, from re-opened graves in the former and in freshly dug graves in the latter. Also from No.3 Graveyard came the fragment of a pottery rim in Samian ware dated late first century and twelve fragments from seven grey vessels together with black material and food bones from a rubbish pit. In April, 1936, grey rims of Romano-British coarse ware were noted as being found in No. 4 Graveyard.

After almost a century of excavation and discovery of Roman remains in Ewell, it is refreshing to observe that pottery sherds are now at least worthy of short published notes, although in fact they still tell all too little through lack of adequate description. We do not know the types of vessels from which the fragments came, the depths at which they were found or the exact find spot. It also seems strange that although there were those who were able to pass judgement on a piece of ancient road, they were unable to identify 'black material' from a rubbish pit. Was this mysterious material charcoal or black or dark mould?

S.E. Winbolt's book 'With a Spade on Stane Street' from which the foregoing notes were extracted, was published in 1936. Unlike Hilaire Belloc's book on Stane Street, this work was based on information derived from archaeological excavation, much of it having been carried out and directed by the author himself. S.E. Winbolt states quite clearly in his preface to the book that his main purpose 'was to record facts', not theories, and to show by digging for Stane Street 'where the road actually did go.' This book has been of definite value both to archaeologists and students of local history as well as interested laymen. No one who is interested in the course of Stane Street can afford to overlook it. For the first time, all the known facts and theories concerning Stane Street were brought together between covers, with details of later information up to and including 1935. In an appendix to his book, Winbolt attempted a conjectural reconstruction of Roman Ewell, confessing that it was not 'based on the spade evidence I should prefer.' It is in itself an interesting piece of theorising, although in the light of modern knowledge one cannot agree with many of the author's conjectures. For example, it is argued that the Roman township was rectangular in shape with the perennial springs at its centre. Research into the density and area of pottery scatter seems to suggest something entirely different. In all fairness to Winbolt, it should be stated that he did recognise that his theories might be either confirmed or refuted by future excavation and research and had the good grace to say so.

During the digging of a cable trench in Church Street in 1937, a quantity of Romano-British coarse pottery was discovered and subsequently, after the excavation at Purberry Shot, Capt. Lowther, who directed that investigation, advanced an interesting theory concerning the

first century pottery encountered on both sites. He maintained that certain types of grey ware vessels, such as the cordoned jars of Belgic ancestry, bead-rim cooking pots and carinated dishes with small reeded rims were most probably the product of a local kiln. To date, there is no report of any local kiln being discovered. Grey gault clay of the type used by Romano-British potters is known to exist in the West Ewell area. It would be very interesting if it could be established by analysis that the two samples (that is, the fired clay of the original vessels and that of a fired sample of local gault clay) did in fact emanate from the same source.

The excavation at Purberry Shot took place between 1938 and 1939 when a large house of the same name was demolished in order to erect a block of flats. Foundation trenches had disclosed a large quantity of pottery of Roman date. Consent to excavate on those parts of the ground not being used for building purposes was granted by Messrs. Bradley and Arthur of Ewell.

There seems to have been continuous occupation on this site from possibly 200 B.C. until around 150 A.D., or even later. From the lowest levels flakes and cores showed that there had been an extensive flint industry here during the Bronze Age and these were associated with calcined flints. Flint and cores belonging to the Mesolithic period were also encountered at this level. Iron Age 'A' pottery was also discovered and the latter Iron Age period was represented by decorated pottery and coarse bead-rim ware. South-Eastern 'B' ware of Claudian date including vessels of Patch Grove type and parts of two pebble-gravel floors belonging to timber huts of this period were also discovered together with evidence of considerable iron-working activity.

The terminal date of the site is given as between 150 and 180 A.D. when a road was constructed across the area, covering a well 40 feet deep, an oven and both huts. Prior to its construction the road had been set out between small guide ditches. Owing to the physical limitation of the site in the shape of the present Epsom Road and adjacent property, only a few small cuttings could be made in an effort to trace the course of the road. Sufficient metalling was however uncovered for Capt. Lowther to report that it ran in a north-easterly direction and measured from 22 to 23 feet in width. It was thought that the road had only a brief existence as its level had subsided to a depth of 3 feet over the well, forming a hollow which apparently had never been filled in; there was also an absence of third and fourth century pottery on the site. The latest coin said to have been discovered during the excavation was a denarius of Hadrian (117-138 A.D.) that is, if the barbarous radiate coin of Tetricus (270-273 A.D.) found by a workman, is discounted, as it obviously was.

The latest pottery from the well filling belonged to the Antonine period and this date seems to have been further attested by fragments of plain and decorated Samian ware.

In September 1919 whilst air-raid shelters were being dug in the orchard behind Ewell Grove County First School, which lies between West Street and High Street, Mr Cloudesley Willis rescued Roman pottery and a much worn second brass coin, probably belonging to the reign of the Emperor Titus, in the upcast soil from these trenches.

This information was immediately relayed to Professor Sheppard Frere, who visited the site and observed the section of an upper part of a ditch penetrating the subsoil of the upper three shelter trenches which had been dug to a depth of 3 feet 6 inches. The filling was found to contain some large fragments of pottery. No excavation was possible until the shelters had

been completed, but, in December, Professor Frere was able to dig a trial trench of 5 feet across the observed line of the ditch; this was found to be U-shaped rather than the more normal V-shape and its greatest depth was 4 feet 8 inches. Once again a considerable amount of Roman pottery was encountered, especially at a depth of 3 feet 6 inches.

From January to March 1940 five more cuttings were made and two small and one larger ditch were discovered filled with occupational debris. Natural obstacles such as trees and vegetable gardens prevented a full investigation and elucidation of the complete plan of the ditches. Professor Frere thought that the larger of the three ditches was a boundary ditch and that the home it enclosed was near the Grove Footpath. This boundary ditch obviously continued under this footpath in the direction of Tayles Hill, where a similar ditch had been partially excavated. Apart from the ditches, the importance of the school site centres upon the group of pottery which consisted of vessel types used in the first two and a half centuries; the bulk of the pottery, however, belonged to the middle decades of the second century. Of special interest were the fragments of two very large storage jars. These jars were of hard sandy ware, grey coloured inside and buff-grey on their exterior walls. The rims were beaded and heavy and faintly 'cabled' with finger impressions. Both rim and shoulder were pierced with a row of holes before firing and four rows of holes also occurred near the base. It was noticed that several holes failed to penetrate the jars completely. Another interesting feature of the vessels was the apparent 'clawing out' of the clay on the inside walls. In another jar from the same cutting the inner wall was trellised with scratched or brushed lines. Subsequently when similar large 'cable' or 'rope' rim jars were found during excavations at Hillbury, Professor Frere stated that in his opinion the pierced holes in this type of jar were functional. The holes would preclude the vessels having contained liquid and it seemed reasonable that the jars had been used for storing some solid which required coolness, dampness or drainage. The Professor went on to suggest that the jars, after having been inverted and suitable tilted, could have been used as beehives.

Besides coarse wares the School site produced a certain amount of Samian ware, covering a period of about 80 to 100 years. The pottery as a whole was mainly of Hadrianic/Antonine date and from this it was deduced that the larger of the ditches was filled in not later than the middle of the third century. No coins other than the doubtful brass of Titus came to light, but there were a number of small finds including an iron object, perhaps a chisel, an iron stilus in good condition, one blade and spring from a pair of iron shears, a bone pin with its point missing, a plain bronze ring and a fragment of glass.

Shortly after this, the exigencies of war, this time the digging of trenches to obstruct airborne invasion, led to further discoveries being made in 1940. These occurred in a land area east of the Reigate Road which are now playing fields belonging to Ewell Technical College. Professor Frere was called in to examine a considerable quantity of pottery and bones. These he definitely identified as the remains of late fourth century inhumation burials and fifth century inhumation and cinerary burials.

In 1940. A piece of Roman road was uncovered in the Tayles Hill area similar to that found at Purberry Shot. The metalling of this road was from 21 to 23 feet wide, laid out between guide trenches and closely resembling the composition of the Purberry Shot road. It ran at approximately right angles to the latter and was thought, at that time, to be part of the original grid pattern of roads in Roman Ewell. It was the stated intention of those responsible for finding this new piece of road to carry out further investigations, but, as ensuing volumes of

the *Surrey Archaeological Collections* make no further reference to the road, it would appear that there was no further excavation possibly due to the rapid redevelopment of the area.

During 1947-1948, evidence of both Iron Age and Roman occupation was forthcoming from the grounds of North Looe House, in the Reigate Road. (TQ 2280 6084.) Mr Tom Walls and Mr Brian Hope-Taylor proved by excavation that the site was once an Iron Age/Romano-British farmstead. A series of rubbish pits were investigated and produced not only Iron Age material, but also pottery that ranged over the entire period of the Roman occupation of this Island. Although no report of this important excavation has so far appeared, all the evidence is in safe store and awaits expert examination.

At the end of the Purberry Shot excavation report a note is appended which states that Mr. Eric Joal located a small rubbish pit or rubbish filled hollow to the immediate west of Purberry Shot in 1948. This pit contained the greater part of a vessel associated with a second brass coin of Septimus Severus (192-211 A.D.), together with nails, bones and oyster shells. The wide-mouthed jar of hard light grey ware possessed a plain out-bent rim and was decorated around the shoulder with a band of combed lattice ornament executed with a small three-toothed comb. This vessel was dated to the first quarter of the third century. Capt. Lowther thought that this pit and its contents were of interest in that the remains belonged to a later phase of the Roman occupation on the Purberry Shot site, i.e. after the filling in of the well and the construction of the road.

Whilst trying to establish an horizon for previous finds of Mesolithic flints in the valley of the Hogsmill River, Mr Tom Walls discovered a Roman rubbish pit in the grounds of Glyn House in 1950. The pit is located in the angle of land former by the wall of No. 3 Graveyard and the boundary wall of the old Churchyard; the National Grid Reference is TQ 22104 62807.

Due to lack of help, only a very limited excavation could be made and the position of the pit and the close proximity of the two walls further constricted the operation. In spite of this, a depth of approximately 10 feet 6 inches was reached when the soil became gravelly yet still yielding large fragments of Roman pottery. The exact nature of the pit and its side profile were not determined, but Mr Walls believes that it is likely to equate with other rubbish pits which have been found in the near vicinity. A considerable area of the pit remains undisturbed on the Glyn House side and a further excavation might prove possible and rewarding. It is likely that the pit was roughly circular and would therefore appear to extend into both No. 3 Graveyard and the Old Churchyard, where unfortunately further investigation is not possible.

Mr Walls has been good enough to make available to me the rough plans and notes he made at the time of his excavation, together with a quantity of pottery which I have had the pleasure of examining.

The pottery consisted mainly of Romano-British coarse wares although there were a few fragments of plain Samian ware and late stamped ware. The majority of the pottery was of third and fourth century date, although sherds belonging to the late first century and second century were also present. As the bottom of the pit had not been reached when Mr Walls was forced to abandon the excavation, it is possible that it contained earlier sherds. From the existing pottery evidence, it would appear that the pit was in use during the last decades of the first or early second centuries and continued to be used until late in the fourth century.

Besides the normal occupational debris, there were a number of small finds including a hollow-headed pin of bronze, bone needles, including one fractured at the eye-hole and a finely worked flint scraper of probable Neolithic or Bronze Age date. This latter was found in the top infilling of the pit and was undoubtedly derived from the surrounding top soil.

The excavation produced five coins belonging to the fourth century, four belonging to the reign of Constantine II, one of the Urbs Roma type and one a barbaric copy, the fifth coin was of Gratian of the *Securitas Republica* type.

Up to this time no permanent Roman building had been discovered. Unfortunately, when in 1950, the foundations of such a building were reported as having been observed by Capt. Lowther to the Archaeological Division of the Ordnance Survey, a thorough investigation proved to be impossible. The structures observed were situated under the pavement in front of the lock-up shops in the Market Parade, High Street, at a point approximately 40 yards from the entrance gate of Bourne Hall; the National Grid reference is TQ 2197 6268.

The Ordnance Survey (Archaeological Division) possess an entry in their card index for Ewell dated March 1950 reporting the finding of large shafts found in the chalk at TQ 2291 6102 by Mr. Brian Hope-Taylor. It was said that these were probably Romano-British.

During the decade 1950-1960 there were no excavations comparable in size to those undertaken at Purberry Shot and Ewell Council School. Small investigations did take place in this period and some have been the subject of short notes in various volumes of the *Surrey Archaeological Collections*. These notes are unfortunately all too brief and lacking in essential detail, a failing which seems to have bedevilled a great deal of research carried out locally over the years.

One of these notes describes the investigation of a late Roman rubbish pit in the old Rectory Garden, opposite Glyn House in Church Street, by members of the Surrey Archaeological Society, before this area of land was converted into a housing estate. The brief note indicates that there was no chance of any remains of Stane Street being found, although its course must have run very near to the position of the rubbish pit. The pit was only partially cleared and contained a quantity of fourth century pottery. The note concludes with the observation that the position of the rubbish pit helps to confirm the line of Stane Street and that the pit was probably dug originally to obtain chalk.

Subsequent enquiries have revealed that three other rubbish pits in the same area were investigated at this time. The approximate position of these two pits is opposite Nos. 3 and 9 Glyn Close and the location of the other opposite the middle point of the garden belonging to the 'Sunny House', which is situated on the corner of Church Street and Glyn Close.

From information supplied to me by Mr. Tom Walls, I understand that about this time a Roman V-shaped ditch was discovered near 'The Lodge', a house on the corner of Tayles Hill; (National Grid reference TQ 2192 6228). A stylus and a pair of dividers were found in this ditch which continued in the direction of Tayles Hill.

In 1952 a cutting was made in the northern sector of the Cemetery Extension (No. 4 Graveyard) by volunteer diggers from the County Archaeological Society and the Nonsuch Society of Ewell. This trench exposed Stane Street and a late first century ditch containing a

quantity of Romano-British pottery together with a coin found to the south of the road. The ditch was said to post-date the road and was thought to have been cut between 80 and 90 A.D. This confirms a fairly early date for the construction of Stane Street and the date of between 50 and 60 A.D. was suggested. Again, it is difficult to decide the exact location of this excavation, nor are there any further details of either the pottery or coin.

A further note appears in the 'Collections' that a student, Mr. R.K. Likeman, doing research for a thesis, kept watch on grave digging in No. 4 Graveyard. This note goes on to state that at a point 48 feet north-east of the last cross path and some 20 inches from the main footpath on its south-east side part of a Roman floor was uncovered 2 feet below the surface; (National Grid reference TQ 222 629). This floor was composed of a solid layer of flint 18 inches thick and embedded in it part of a box-flue tile decorated with chevrons and belonging to Capt. Lowther's No. 4 Group. This structure faced south-east and at right angles to Stane Street. A single layer of flint was discovered in another grave in the near vicinity. A trial hole was dug in a relative position on the other side of the central footpath and yielded fragments of coarse grey Romano-British ware, a few sherds of plain Samian ware, a piece of flanged roofing tile and the bones of a stag.

The remaining discoveries were made by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society during excavations on the site of Carpenter's Old Bakery (now occupied by the G.P.O. in the High Street) TQ 2198 6267, and at the Stable site in Bourne Hall during the seasons of 1962-64. A preliminary report of the former excavation appeared in the Society's Bulletin and was written by Mr. Norman Nail. No Roman structures were found on the site. Two pits were located on its eastern side, one, 3 feet deep 12 feet long and 4 feet wide; the second was only half this size. The pits appeared to have been dug in the late seventeenth century for the purpose of obtaining sand and after this had been extracted were refilled with old topsoil and building rubble. It was in this returned top soil that fragments of Roman pottery were found; there were also some very small sherds of Samian ware, two fragments of a brooch and a large brass sestertius of Augustus. Mr. Nail goes on to say that, in his opinion, the presence of Roman pottery on this site was due to the downhill movement of soil from higher ground to the north-east and that the smallness of the fragments could have been caused by soil drift. The most significant discovery of Roman date on the Stable site was a shallow crematory burial. The remains were deposited in a second century flagon. Other finds included Romano-British pottery, fragments of decorated flue tile of Lowther's Chevron type and a ditch to the west of the site.

In the summer of 1967, excavations took place at the rear of No.27 High Street, a shop belonging to the South Suburban Co-operative Society. A pit entering the chalk subsoil was found to contain a considerable quantity of mid-first to late second century pottery which included a small amount of plain Samian ware. One sherd of this ware from the base of a conical cup, probably of Form 33, was signed with the potter's name, COCVRO i.e. COCVRVS of LEZOUX. This potter worked in Central Gaul during the Trajanic-Hadrianic period (98-138 A.D.) Small finds included fragments of two much corroded iron styli, a complete bone pin with a double-groove round its head, a complete loom weight in chalk and a bone gaming counter with the Roman numerals XXX on one of its faces. Simultaneously, the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society commenced excavating at the rear of Nos. 23 and 25 High Street, the King William IV public house, under the direction of Mr. Roger Caws. (TQ 220 626). Again a series of pits entering the chalk were exposed containing such occupational debris including an almost complete flagon and a coin of Vespasian. This excavation continued until August 1970 under various directors from the Society. Pre-Roman pottery

was also discovered together with six more coins: Vespasian (one further coin), Faustina (wife of Antonius Pius), Postumus, Claudius (Gothicus) and Constantine I (two coins). Footings of a possible building of Roman date were also encountered. The excavation is now being filled in and shortly the Borough Council will construct a car park covering the entire area.

During the period 1971/2 the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society had been actively engaged in two excavations. The first of these was an attempt to prove the alignment of Stane Street in the north-east corner of the No.4 Churchyard, Church Street, TQ 222 631, and its relation to the Fair Field alignment (now the area containing the housing estate Staneway). The second project was to trace the alignments of the Romano-British ditches in the orchard of the Ewell Grove First School, TQ 21 624, partially excavated by Professor Sheppard Frere in 1939/40.

The excavation in No.4 Churchyard found Stane Street much worn and extensively robbed along its eastern edge. A section cut through the metalling showed that the road consisted of three layers, a top surface layer consisting of flint modules packed in gravel which rested on a thin layer of pebbles which was based on a further layer of light grey soil.

At the southern end of the site flint footings of an oblong-shaped building were discovered. Although the purpose of this building is unknown, it was thought that the presence of postholes running parallel to its northern wall suggest that it possessed a veranda or possibly a timber superstructure. To the north of this building was a cobbled yard and adjacent to it a pit containing charcoal, and at its base a flue with an entrance facing south-west. In close proximity to the pit was a tumbled wall foundation bonded with sandstone and tile. Associated with these remains was a quantity of fourth century pottery and animal bones.

Other pottery associated with parts of the building on cursory examination seems to be of second century date. Associated with the pottery and other material were other finds consisting of bone pins, fibulae and several coins. A full report on this excavation will be eagerly awaited.

The Ewell Grove First School excavation exposed the original ditch found by Professor Sheppard Frere in 1939/40 and pottery from both the Iron Age and Roman periods together with Mesolithic flints.

Such is the record of excavation and discovery of Roman Ewell during almost a century and a quarter. The results do not appear too impressive when compared with those from other Romano-British sites up and down the country. However, the knowledge gained from evidence uncovered is certainly more extensive now than at the close of the last century. It is, perhaps, to be regretted that so much of the excavation has had to be of the 'rescue' type. All too often excavators have been restricted by the physical limitations imposed by the sites, too often they have had insufficient time to carry out a complete scientific investigation. Even so, we must feel grateful to those enthusiasts who seized their opportunities, carried out the work and published their reports. Much has been done, especially during the last half century to enlarge our horizons and to provide a stimulus for the great deal of excavation and research still remaining to be done.

CHAPTER III

If our local history was entirely dependent on written records, the history of Ewell would commence in the latter part of the seventh century A.D. Ewell is first mentioned in a deed, thought to be of doubtful authenticity, which survives in a thirteenth century cartulary. This is a copy of a deed of 675 A.D. by which Frithwold Sub-King of Surrey and Bishop Erkenwald gave a number of 'mansas' or dwellings at Ewell and Cuddington to Chertsey Abbey. Fortunately, there is other evidence, material evidence from local soil, that ancient man, using the trackways from the Downs came to Ewell for water and hunted wild fowl along the marshy banks of its river many centuries before the Roman occupation of Britain.

Ewell owes its long history to the abundant supply of fresh water from its springs. It has meant the support of life and livelihood through the centuries, and when man became less nomadic, he saw to it that his place of habitation and the land he had learned to cultivate, were at no great distance from such an essential supply.

Where man has settled, there we can expect to find the material evidence of that settlement. Artifacts, tools and utensils, complete or broken, lie buried in the soil. Some have been disturbed many times since they were discarded and eventually find their way to the surface to be found either fortuitously or by systematic search. The majority are still buried and can only be brought to light and interpreted by modern scientific excavation. Excavation, search and chance discovery have shown that Ewell is fruitful ground. Hardly a month passes without some object from its colourful past coming to light, increasing our ever-growing knowledge of the area.

Archaeologists, however, are not the only persons in a community interested in digging the soil; many others are engaged in this occupation although for entirely different reasons. Gardens and recreation grounds as well as private gardens and allotments need seasonal attention. Land belonging to market gardeners and nurserymen has to be ploughed and dug. New roads need to be constructed and existing thoroughfares widened, necessitating large scale commercial excavation. Trenches are constantly being cut by a variety of authorities to convey essential services. Foundation trenches and soakaways are periodically being gouged out of our local earth by mechanical excavators on building sites. There are usually still a few fields on the outskirts of each locality which need ploughing. Inevitably, graves have to be dug or reopened. Sometimes storm and tempest uproot out magnificent trees causing yawning craters in the soil. Rain and wind, frost and snow, slowly but surely erode and change the landscape. Rarely a day passes without activity of this kind, and where such soil disturbance takes place, it should be carefully scrutinised by a trained archaeological observer.

Bourne Hall

A systematic searching of the disturbed soil surfaces of Bourne Hall grounds and those in the north-west sector in particular, was commenced in 1959. At that time the area was very stony and contained a considerable quantity of building material. It has been said that the spot was once the site of an Italian sunken garden, but this has never been verified. It must be very near the area where S.R. Winbolt claimed that glass and pottery of Roman date, in association with inhumation burials, were found in 1913.

The first fragment of a Roman pottery rim came from this location. It was a large fragment for a surface find, the rim was beaded and came from a type of vessel generally known as a 'pie-dish'. At Farnham it appears as early as 100 A.D. and at Purberry Shot several examples were discovered and dated early to mid-second century, whilst at Southwark the type appeared with second century material, but was also present in later levels. The paste of the Bourne Hall fragment was hard and slate-grey in colour and when new, it was apparent that the vessel had been coated with buff-coloured slip and highly polished. The exterior wall of the dish was decorated with a lattice-work of burnished lines.

During the winter months of 1963-1964 some 20 feet of an earthen bank, parallel to the upper arm of Spring Street, was cleared to ground level. This bank lay within the boundary wall and adjacent to the present Hallkeeper's bungalow. S.E. Winbolt stated that the line of this part of Spring Street which continues as a lane into West Street, formed the southern limit of Roman Ewell. The accuracy of Winbolt's theory need not concern us here, but bearing in mind the discovery of Roman remains in this sector, it was considered prudent to keep a close watch on this bank levelling. The whole operation took several weeks for due to hard frost, no continuous work was possible and although visits were paid on several occasions, only on one was actual work in progress.

The height of the earthen bank, which extended for part of the length of Spring Street, was approximately 3 feet 6 inches above the mean ground level and when cleared to this level was still considerably higher than that of Spring Street.

Mr. Alec Humphreys, who was acting Head Gardener at this time, put aside a small collection of objects discovered during the soil clearance. This consisted of thirteen items of pottery, a tile fragment, partially glazed and showing a perforation for a nail and the complete bowl and part of the stem of a clay pipe which could be dated to the period 1600-1640. The pottery included nine rim fragments, a sherd from the base of a vessel and three body sherds, one of which was coated with polished black slip and possessed a band of rouletted decoration. Of the rim fragments, seven were of Roman date and two belonged to the early Medieval period; the residue of the sherds was Roman. Three rims were of the 'pie-dish' type previously mentioned, and of the others, none was probably later than mid-second century.

It is possible that this raised embankment was man-made and could be dated to the erection of the brick cottage which once stood on the site and was recently demolished to make way for the present Hallkeeper's bungalow.

Shortly before the construction of the proud, new complex of buildings which house the Council's Library and Museum, the greater part of the boundary wall both in Spring Street and its upper arm, had been rebuilt necessitating the cutting back of the soil to allow for the re-laying of the foundations. Although this operation was continuously watched, the only item of interest taken from the disturbed earth was the rim fragment of a carinated dish in reddish brown paste liberally tempered with shell grit. Similar rim sherds were recovered from the Purberry Shot site and dated twelfth to thirteenth century.

Attention was now turned to a large flower bed situated at the top of the drive where magnificent masses of dahlias bloom each year. Although no Romano-British pottery was encountered here, a few flint flakes and discarded flint cores were found together with pieces of medieval pottery. There was a considerable scatter of largish stones towards the middle of the bed and there appeared to be a layer of flint and brick fragments at no great depth from

the surface. It would appear that the drive once crossed this flower bed making direct for the gateway of the old stable yard.

Much later, whilst investigations were in progress in the grounds belonging to Glyn House, an area of grass 50 yards by 30 yards was removed from the surface of the Paddock in the northern sector of Bourne Hall, to provide a nursery bed for young plants and shrubs. The area was ploughed several times and, after weathering, produced several finds. These included a particularly fine round flint scraper of probable Neolithic-Bronze date, a transverse flint arrowhead of the 'petit-tranchet' type and a pair of much battered tweezers probably of tinned bronze containing a decoration of incised dots strongly resembling the give spot arrangement on a domino.

There was only a thin scatter of pottery of early date on the ploughed rectangle. The Romano-British pottery sherds included rims belonging to all four centuries. Medieval sherds were not numerous here but there was a considerable amount of later material including half of a pipe-clay wig curler and a number of clay pipe bowls and stems. The densest scatter of Romano-British pottery occurred at the 'Turrets' end of the Paddock, as did a medieval counter from Nuremberg. Also in this area, the plough turned up a very distinct line of chalk and building rubble indicating that perhaps at one time a path, approximately 6 feet wide, ran from a small gateway in the Paddock wall towards the Chessington Road.

It was also reported that at the Spring Street end the plough had encountered certain building structures at no great depth and this confirmed previous observations of the outlines of these structures on the grassed surface.

Few Romano-British sherds were collected from cultivated beds in the public part of the grounds. Those that were discovered came from areas either near the Paddock wall or the boundary wall at the 'Turrets'. Perhaps the most interesting fragment from this area was a large black rouletted body sherd with decoration in white paint; this is a fine example of 'New Forest' ware of fourth century date.

The land surrounding the lake was carefully searched, but there has been little soil disturbance here for some years. It is possible that when the earth was dug in order to make an ornamental water, it was transported to raise the earthen mound which stands only a short distance back from the lake and to the right of the entrance drive. The two small islets left to provide sanctuary for the lake waterfowl have not been investigated and this might prove to be an interesting field exercise in the future even if results prove negative.

From a small circular bed containing a cypress-like shrub, east of the present Hallkeeper's bungalow, came a most unusual rim fragment. It would appear to belong to a small beaker or cup with a perforated lug; the paste of the vessel is dull brown in colour and mixed with small white grits and is very reminiscent of 'native' ware. The Guildhall Museum who examined this sherd were unable to suggest a date for it. It could possibly be pre-Roman.

The investigation at Bourne Hall produced only one Roman coin, a barbarous imitation of Domitian (81-96 A.D.) It was found by Mr. W. Watkinson, who was then Head Gardener, in the cultivated bed at the top of the drive.

When building excavations commenced in 1968 prior to the erection of the Bourne Hall Library and Museum, a close watch was kept on the deep penetration of the soil and the

resulting mounds of upcast. The results, however, were entirely negative and this has been confirmed by other independent observers.

More recently, the whole of the Paddock area has been trenched for the building of a Health Centre. It was interesting to learn from the site foreman that building structures had been encountered adjacent to the Paddock wall. These consisted of at least one wall running parallel to the Paddock wall. Previous observations had indicated the possible presence of other walls but this could not be confirmed.

A search of the upcast at the 'Turrets' end of the site produced several fragments of Romano-British pottery. Two of these were rim fragments, one from a necked jar or bowl in light grey were measuring 4 inches by 11/2 inches, the other from a small vessel with an everted rim. Both rims were from types of vessel in use during the first century.

It was also noted that the top soil was exceptionally deep in places extending to 3 feet and more. This could be due to the considerable amount of landscaping which has taken place over the whole area during the years, or, it may merely be an alluvial deposit.

Glyn House Grounds

During the autumn of 1960 the searching of disturbed soil surface was extended to the grounds belonging to Glyn House. Here, as at Bourne Hall, the finds consisted mostly of pottery fragments; the majority were small and could be dated to the period of the Roman occupation of this country. In certain areas these formed a remarkably dense scatter. Pre-Roman sherds were scarce. The earliest fragment was probably of the Neolithic 'B' period, there were a few Iron Age fragments and the base of a 'pedestal' jar.

Considerably less than one twentieth of this area is under cultivation, the remainder being grass covered. The whole of the cultivated area was divided into ten sub-sites and each sub-site, which usually included at least one flower bed, was allocated a number. Rim sherds discovered on a particular sub-site were marked with this number. This seemed a simple method of determining both the total number of rim sherds from each sector and the densities of pottery scatter. Unfortunately there is no way of determining whether or not a particular sherd does emanate from the spot where it is found, on fact there must be a considerable amount of doubt about this. For example, sherds were encountered in the huge deposits of leaf compost in the northern sector of the grounds. In the autumn, leaves are collected both from the grassed areas and from raking the cultivated beds. After a year or even two, when the leaves have sufficiently rotted down, they are re-scattered on flower beds and dug into the soil. Errors caused by transference of soil from one part of the area to another were negligible, at least, during the years covering the investigation. This was due to the whole-hearted co-operation of the gardeners, who not only took a keen interest in the research but often assisted the project by discovering objects of interest in the course of their work and putting them carefully aside for examination.

Towards the end of 1961, Mr. J. King, who was then Head Gardener, discovered a bronze coin of Magnentius (350-353 A.D.), whilst tidying up the grassed edges of the drive which leads from the High Street up to the House. TQ 2203 6273. This drive is on the line of the old Parsonage Lane. In 1967, just before his retirement, Mr King found a second coin in a rose bed near the footpath behind Glyn House. TQ 2204 6278. Unfortunately this was too worn for positive identification, but is probably of Roman date.

Although the search was mainly confined to disturbed soil surfaces, the whole area was examined for material evidence or signs of previous occupation. All path surfaces were examined, resulting in the discovery of a few Romano–British and Medieval pottery sherds. Attention was also paid to lawn edges, especially where these surfaces were higher than the adjoining paths, for signs of building material and pottery. Where garden drains were located, their covers were removed and considerable deposits of leaves and mud were well sifted. Surfaces of lawns and larger grassed areas were constantly watched during dry periods for signs of underlying structures and when snow lay on the ground, the places from which the snow first disappeared.

On one occasion, some pieces of worked stone, which formed a curb between the bed of shrubs and the footpath parallel to the Old Graveyard walls were examined. On the underside of one of these stones part of the alphabet in neatly chiselled Roman capitals was found. At the end of the exercise, for it seemed apparent that the work had been executed by an apprentice stone mason, a decorative tailpiece had been cut together with the date 1810. Several stones were decorated with Tudor roses, others bore the letters of partial words and nineteenth century dates.

The destruction of these gravestones probably took place when the greater part of the old St. Mary's Church was demolished in 1848. At this time, or even subsequently, in the course of tidying up the churchyard, the broken stones were thrown over the wall into the Glyn grounds where they were utilized by the gardeners.

It is perhaps interesting and relevant to recall that Mr Cloudesley Willis states that the churchyard was 'squared off' at some time. This fact is further attested by a report contained in the Ewell Index kept by the Archaeological Division of the Ordnance Survey (now at Southampton) giving details of inhumation burials discovered some years ago on the Glyn House side of the old churchyard wall.

One of the interesting features of the grounds of Glyn House is the spring pool which lies almost adjacent to the Spring but stop. The clear water of the pool with its several springs continuously bubbling up is most picturesque and fascinating. In earlier times man looked on this bountiful and unfailling supply of fresh water with thankfulness and with considerable awe. This reverence was not merely the monopoly of the ignorant and uneducated but was shared by the learned and the sophisticated. Was it not Seneca who wrote "we worship the head of great rivers and we raise altars to their first springs." It is possible that spring worship was practised more widely in this country and especially in Romanised Britain than we today imagine. It has been suggested on more than one occasion that here we could have something closely parallel to the shrines discovered at Springhead, near Gravesend, as recorded in recent volumes of *Archaeologia Cantiana*. Such a possibility sounds exciting, but perhaps, at such times, it becomes necessary to recall the sobering words of a late Surrey historian who stated that "pleasant discourses and ingenious speculation cannot be taken as a serious contribution to archaeological research." To date, there has been no trace of altars or shrines at our river head. On the other hand, there is ample evidence to show that early man sought and found these perennial springs and in the Roman period the pottery and coin evidence indicate a sizeable settlement to the north-east at no great distance from this water supply.

During the second summer of research it became possible to examine an amount of silt or sludge dug out from this pool. This was placed on a sheet of corrugated iron and the water

allowed to drain off. The silt was buff-grey in colour and appeared to consist of sand or sandy grit together with chalk or limestone. The mixture was found to contain little of interest except one grey pottery rim of perhaps first century date and the stem of a clay tobacco pipe with the words VIKING or KINGSTON stamped in relief upon it. It was also noted that the silt became stiff and hard and strongly resembled modern cement that has been allowed to dry out.

Another interesting feature in the Glyn House grounds is the small green covered knoll or hillock situated roughly in the centre of the area behind the House and about 100 yards to the east of the Spring pool. It stands on gently rising ground, is approximately conical, well above mean ground level. Although the mound is clearly marked on Ordnance Survey maps of the area, nothing appears to be known about its origin, and, as far as can be traced, no written reference has been made to it. Several sherds of Romano-British pottery have been recovered from the edge of the path running immediately in front of it and a Roman coin has been discovered in a rosebed between the knoll and the Spring pool. Again, pottery of Roman date has been discovered in the flower bed immediately behind it. This knoll must stand very close to the line of the medieval Austynes' Lane which traversed the grounds from a point near the site of the present Spring Hotel to the Old Church Tower. Some three years ago, Mr Wallis, one of the gardeners, encountered a solid layer of flint stones, 10 inches below the surface, whilst digging the flower bed immediately behind the grassed knoll. The spread of flints seemed to extend to a distance of 12 or 13 feet in the direction of the summerhouse which stands at the end of this bed. It is very possible that these flints are part of the metalling of Austynes' Lane.

Perhaps one of the most interesting discoveries made during the investigations has been the finding of a small face mask in bronze on the flower bed which runs parallel to No. 3 Graveyard. TQ 2209 6282. The mask measures 4.3 centimetres in length and 3.4 centimetres at its widest part and was in an excellent state of preservation. The authorities at the Guildhall Museum who have examined the bronze state that it is a mask of Faunus or Pan, a fertility god of the Romans and it could be of first or early second century workmanship. The reverse side of the mask is hollow and the piece could have been used as a decorative motif on the side of a bronze vessel such as a hemispherical bowl. The detail has been delicately executed. The facial expression has been described as one of 'leering joviality' by some, while others detect a sinister and malevolent air in the features. From a mass of wavy hair spring two short blunt horns and the ears are long, pointed at the ends and faun-like. Sprouting from the chin are two coiled, dressed beards. Other specialists who have examined the mask differ over its date. Due to the fact that the craftsman has attempted to indicate the eye pupils, one specialist has stated that the bronze is of second century date as it was normal in the first century for workers in both stone and metal to leave the eyeballs entirely blank. Yet another specialist is of the opinion that the work is entirely Celtic in feeling.

There are two face masks of solid bronze in the Guildford Museum. The first was found in 1883 during the excavation of the Roman villa at Chiddingfold, The second was found in 1863 during the cutting of a drain some 200 yards south of the Roman villa at Titsey. It was suggested that this mask could be a representation of the head of the god, Neptune.

From the flowerbed parallel to the old Graveyard wall and close to the spot where Mr T. Walls partially excavated a Roman rubbish pit in 1950 came a very small coin of Arcadius (395-408 A.D.) TQ 221 628. This coin is not a particularly good specimen, but it is interesting to realise that it was in use shortly before the legions were withdrawn after the

Roman withdrawal from this country. Close to the find spot of the coin came an ovular-shaped piece of metal with an unidentifiable design in relief upon it. It is now known that the object is a terminal from the handle of a pewter jug of Roman date and is decorated with a phallic symbol.

Although it is generally accepted that the greater part of the grounds of Glyn House lay within the boundary of Roman Ewell, the course of Stane Street through this area is very doubtful; maps and plans show it as entering the grounds at the eastern corner from Glyn Close and almost immediately traverses the Old Graveyard keeping west of the old Church Tower. It then re-enters the grounds at a point approximately in the centre of flower border containing hazel shrubs (R 8 on site plan). Crossing a lawn (close to the site of the Old Rectory Farm) it traverses a flower bed (R 10), enters No. 5 Graveyard and then proceeds across the upper arm of Church Street and then changes direction to the Nonsuch Park alignment.

During almost a decade of surface examination of the soil at Glyn House, there have been no visible signs of road metalling nor have the gardeners encountered large flints in the course of seasonal digging. There have been no positive results when new shrubs were planted or old ones dug out, although this has often meant soil penetration of several feet along the supposed line of Stane Street.

It is very probable that Stane Street does not enter the grounds of Glyn House, although it must pass very near its eastern corner. It is more likely that the course of Stane Street across the old Churchyard is synonymous with the flagstone path which passes the old Tower to the east. Flint metalling has been encountered in No.3 Graveyard in a grave against the wall, adjacent to the War Memorial; this is on the suggested line or nearly so.

A total of 500 pottery rims of Roman date have been collected from the disturbed soil surfaces of the grounds belonging to Glyn House. Of these, over 200 were worthy of illustration, the remainder being too small and abraded. Sherds belonging to the pre-Roman era were very scarce and there were comparatively few which could be dated to the Medieval Period.

Of the Roman pottery, very few rims of Samian ware were discovered, in fact less than 30% of the total rims collected. Nor were sherds of Caster or other fine wares any more abundant. Only one small fragment of decorated Samian ware was found; this showed floral decoration. Rims of plain Samian ware belonged to Dragendorff Forms 18/31, 27, 33, 35, 42 or variant, this last named being the first time this Form has been met with locally. Only one fragment was signed and this only with the first three letters of the potter's name (ALB/sic). The sherd probably formed part of the base of a conical cup of Form 33. The Guildhall Museum, who examined this piece, suggested that the potter's name was most probably ALBINUS, who worked in South Gaul during the period 70-90 A.D.

Of the coarse ware rims only one was unusual, although this is reminiscent of a rim from a mortarium excavated at Southwark. The Ewell rim is rounded and separated by a hollow from an offset which is far less pronounced than is the Southwark example, which was taken from an Antonine level.

The remainder of the coarse pottery came from vessels which are usually encountered on domestic sites. Bead rim jars of the first century were prominent as were third or fourth

century flanged dishes. Pie dishes with rounded, slightly triangular-shaped and horizontal rims and early and late types of cavetto rimmed jars were also fairly numerous. There were five examples of rims from large storage jars, all these are probably of late date, including one possessing the so-called 'cable' or 'rope' type rim. Rims from small beakers with everted rims were not so plentiful.

A tentative dating of some 200 rims in both Samian and coarse ware shows the following percentages for the four centuries:-

RIMS BELONGING TO	1 st	CENTURY	VESSEL TYPES	30.3%
“	“	“	2 nd “	“
“	“	“	3 rd “	“
“	“	“	4 th “	“
				33.5%
				17.2%
				19.0%

The sub-site showing the densest scatter of rim sherds was R 10, parallel to No. 3 Graveyard. This flower bed is approximately 300 feet in length by 13 feet wide. It was very noticeable that the majority of the sherds collected from its surface came from the end nearest the Old Church Tower. This scatter of pottery thinned out considerably as the present Parish Church was approached and this pattern is duplicated in No. 3 Graveyard.

On the Spring pool side of the grounds the scatter was not quite as dense as that from R 0. This sector consisted of sub-sites R 1, R 2 and R 3 and included cultivated beds of the kitchen garden and the flower beds immediately behind the Spring pool. Mr. Norman Nail, in his report on the excavation carried out by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society on Carpenter's Old Bakery site, which lies adjacent to the above area of Glyn House grounds, states that the Romano-British pottery encountered during that excavation was due to soil drift from a settlement on higher ground. What Mr Nail suggests could well be true as the sherds discovered on the kitchen garden surfaces were mostly small and rather worn. On the other hand, it should be remembered that footings of a Roman building were observed during the erection of lock-up shops in the Market Parade, High Street, in 1950 by Capt. Anthony Lowther. (National grid reference TQ 2197 6268). Pottery emanating from this area could have been associated with such a building. Again, the pottery from behind the Spring pool could be attributed to soil movement, but it must be conceded that broken pottery is exactly the kind of evidence one would expect to find behind a popular watering place which had been used for centuries.

Of the first 200 pottery rims collected from the grounds of Glyn House, 49.7%[^] came from the long flower bed adjacent to No. 3 Graveyard (R 10), 39.1% from the kitchen garden and cultivated beds behind the Spring pool (R 1, R 2 and R 3) and 11.2% from the remaining six sub-sites.

The greater part of Ewell has now been built upon and there remain very few areas which have retained the rural charm which the neighbourhood possessed a century ago; one of these areas is the gardens and grounds of Glyn House. This was once a private mansion, but is now the property of the Surrey County Council and, together with ancillary buildings is used for educational research. During the decade of my archaeological search, a further building has been erected and some three years or more a further area for building extension was marked out; this area lies immediately behind the present house. This project came to nothing at that time, possibly due to restrictions laid down in the interests of national economy. This pause may only be temporary for it was obvious that the extension plans were well advanced.

A considerable amount of material evidence has been collected from the grounds of Glyn House, sufficient to warrant careful excavation when the opportunity arises, as arise it must. Both our local and county Archaeological Societies should ensure that ample notice of any future building extension in this area will be given them in order that a thorough excavation can be carried out. It is far too late when the contractors move in. This kind of situation has occurred too often at Ewell, resulting in hurried investigation, limitation and frustration. If rural Ewell, with all its charm, is to disappear, let us make quite sure that we are given time enough to salvage some of its fascinating past history before it is too late.

CHAPTER IV

BUILDING SITES – ‘PERSFIELD’, EPSOM ROAD

The examination of disturbed soil surfaces continued until mid-1962 when it seemed necessary and important to focus attention on something entirely different, the building site. During the early summer of that year a large house standing in its own grounds called ‘Persfield’ was pulled down and the entire site cleared and levelled prior to the erection of a row of modern houses.

One of the interesting features of the Purberry Shot excavation had been the discovery of a secondary Roman road which, from the evidence from the site, was thought to have been constructed circa 180 A.D. In spite of the physical limitation on excavation imposed by the modern Epsom Road, enough of the second century road was uncovered to determine that it was pointed in a north-easterly direction. Purberry Shot is situated approximately 50 yards to the north-east of ‘Persfield’ and on the opposite side of the Epsom Road, and if a conjectural line is produced towards the north-east from the last located position of the Roman road, then, if the road did continue into Ewell it either passed through the ‘Persfield’ site or bypassed it by the merest fraction until it finally made junction with Stane Street. As to the road’s continuation into Ewell, it is difficult to believe that a road identified as Roman, of standard width, laid out between guide trenches and whose construction was deemed important enough to obliterate an earlier settlement and its well, should suddenly terminate at the boundary of Purberry Shot. With the possible discovery of further traces of this road very much in mind, it seemed important to watch the trenching at ‘Persfield’ as closely as possible.

Unfortunately, it proved impossible to examine foundation trenches belonging to the first three houses due to the speed of the mechanical excavator and the concrete mixing machine at the northern end of the site. Subsequent trenching for the remainder of the houses revealed no signs of road metalling. In spite of this negative evidence, the Purberry Shot road could still have passed through the site but closer to the old boundary wall. It will be seen from the plan of the site that the row of houses stands well back from this wall. Behind the wall is a cultivated flower bed and a fairly wide service road. The distance from the boundary wall to the building line of the houses is quite considerable although that distance decreases at the southernmost end of the site. The excavation necessary for the construction of the service road was exceedingly shallow and the Roman road could have easily remained hidden only a little deeper. The soil on this western side of the site was very gravelly and contained some medium-sized flints, but these do not necessarily prove the existence of a road. If, in spite of the negative evidence, the Purberry Shot road did continue its course into Ewell, it could, at this point, be almost parallel with the Epsom Road, but tending to bear slightly eastward. Some years ago, road metalling was found under Henry’s Garage, opposite the entrance to the Cheam Road car park, during building alterations; this could not be Stane Street, but it just could be the Purberry Shot road. It is still possible that metalling of the road may be discovered in gardens to the rear of buildings on the eastern side of the High Street, between say the ‘Green Man’ public house and the Cheam Road, but to date nothing positive has been reported.

Attention was now directed to the mounds of upcast in the northern sector of the ‘Persfield’ site. It was evident from their position that the soil of which they were composed had emanated from initial foundation trenches. Immediately, large chalk flints liberally daubed

with opus signinum (pink Roman cement) were encountered. Further examination of these mounds produced a very large quantity of Roman building material, consisting of fragments of brick, flanged roofing tiles, semi-circular ridge tiles and flue tiles. The majority of the latter were hand combed; only one fragment was found belonging to Lowther's Chevron Group where the decoration is in relief. Some of the fragments of brick came from very small bricks or brickettes. Further penetration of the soil produced a number of whole brickettes, the average measurements were $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3 \times 1\frac{1}{4}$; two of these brickettes being still bounded together with cement in such a manner as to suggest that they had been originally laid down herring-bone wise. A closer examination showed that all the faces of each brickette had cement adhering to them except one; the long narrow face, and when this had been cleaned its surface showed up worn and uneven. It seemed reasonable to deduce from this evidence that these brickettes had been used for flooring for an L-shaped room and they were also found associated with the villa on Walton Heath. At the latter site, the measurement of the brickettes was $2\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ " and, as at 'Persfield', mortar was found adhering to all broad faces of the bricks save one.

Owing to the fragmentary nature of the hand combed flue tiles, it was impossible to determine the complete design of any of them. Some fragments showed a distinct lattice-like arrangement of lines; others, groups of wavy lines very similar to the decoration found on some types of Romano-British pottery. It can perhaps be said that when the 'Persfield' fragments are compared with Lowther's six examples of hand decorated tiles illustrated in the *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, they might very well belong to types 3, 4, 5 and 6. Lowther states that type 3 design, which consists of both lattice-work and wavy lines was found at Ewell, but is no more specific than that. Flue tiles with relief decoration were found at Purberry Shot, namely the Chevron and Diamond and lattice types; it would be interesting to know if his type was also found there.

Other fragments of building material taken from the upcast soil from foundation trenches included a few pieces of maroon-painted wall plaster, a fragment of blue-tinted window glass; the surface being matt on one side and smooth on the other, lumps of opus signinum and a small piece of burnt daub with the impression of a wattle strut on its surface.

Reference has already been made to amounts of Roman building material being found during excavations on the Ewell house site and in the orchard belonging to Ewell County First School. At the latter site Professor S. Frere identified one of several ditches as a boundary ditch and suggested 'that the home it bounded was near the Grove footpath'. The abundant evidence from the building material at 'Persfield' seems to support the theory that there was a permanent Roman building in this area.

As well as this considerable amount of building material, there was a fair quantity of Romano-British pottery from the upcast from both foundation and drainage trenching; the majority of this coming from the eastern side of the site and little being recovered from the Epsom Road site. The density of his pottery was greatest towards the north and lessened quite considerably as the southern end of the site was approached.

It is, of course, dangerous to argue ex absentia, but from the date of the earliest sherds encountered at 'Persfield' it would seem that occupation occurred here at a later date than at Purberry Shot. Two flint scrapers were found at 'Persfield', one round and of rough manufacture, the other, an end scraper of superior workmanship. It must, however, be borne in mind that the finding of flint artefacts on Romano-British sites, though not uncommon, is

no indication that the site is an early one. At 'Persfield' there was no evidence of any extensive flint industry as was apparent on the Purberry Shot site.

Among pottery fragments were a few sherds of native ware and one large fragment of Patch Grove ware showing a band of fingertip impressions. One rim of native ware came from the foundation trench of the southernmost house. This rim sherd, which belonged to a large bead-rim jar was probably the earliest rim fragment encountered. The paste of this vessel was dark brown in colour and liberally mixed with white grits and very much in the Iron Age tradition of potting. Specialists who have examined this sherd state that the exaggerated internal projection of the rim shows that it is post-Claudian in date. Similar rims from Merle Common, Limpsfield, were dated 70-75 A.D. and those from the 'Progress' Roman villa at Otford were dated 50-75 A.D. Of some 100+ rims collected at 'Persfield' some 10% are from bead-rim jars and almost all of them show the exaggerated internal projection of the rim. From this evidence it is possible that occupation on this site commenced about 60 A.D.

Returning to the Purberry Shot road, it will be recalled that it was stated in the report that this road probably had a very short existence. This theory was based on two observations, firstly a subsidence in the road metalling above the well which had never been repaired, and secondly the complete absence of third and fourth century pottery on the site. At 'Persfield', only a short distance to the north-east and approximately on the line of the road, there was a fair amount of late pottery including flanged dishes. This type is usually dated third to fourth century, but at least two of these rims were considered to be probably of fourth century date by authorities at the Guildhall Museum. Rims of the late cavetto type were also found and these must also be late belonging to either late third or fourth century. Two heavy rims belonging to storage jars were also encountered, similar jars came from the Ewell Council School site. One of the 'Persfield' rims was pierced on both sides providing a small air vent. Many authorities regard this heavy 'rope' or 'cable' rim as late in date, although at Twyford Down, Hants, these rims have been found together with late first century material. It would seem that this type of vessel had a long life and a fairly wide distribution in Surrey, where this type is regarded as a re-emergence of Celtic taste and fashion in pottery manufacture, a fourth century date is normally assigned to these massive jars. At Ewell County First School they were given a date of not later than 360 A.D.

Perhaps the most significant factor in trying to assess the terminal date of occupation at 'Persfield' was the complete absence of the standard type of fourth century cooking jar, so common elsewhere at Ewell. This jar is usually grey or cream to buff in colour, possesses a rilled or striated surface for easy handling and an undercut rim. At Verulamium, this type of jar first appears about 340 A.D. At 'Persfield'; if the late fourth century date of the storage jars is discounted, then dating evidence from pottery would suggest a period of occupation from around 60 A.D. until sometime during the early decades of the fourth century.

Compared with the coarse wares, a very small amount of Samian ware was found. Only three fragments showed decoration in relief. The first of them was a fragment from a cylindrical bowl of Form 30 and dated to between 60 and 80 A.D. The decoration is exceedingly delicate and in a very fine state of preservation. It is probably a good example of decoration before increased demand and mass production caused this ornamentation to become both clumsy and crude in the second century. The second fragment is probably from a hemispherical bowl of Form 37; here the decoration is larger and worn, although the outline of a dolphin and an ivy leaf is still recognisable. The date is probably Hadrianic (117-138 A.D.). The third fragment is from another bowl of Form 37; it includes the beaded rim, the plain area below

the rim and part of the ovolo decoration. In this type of vessel the plain area between rim and ovolo is either narrow or wide, a wide area is usually indicative of a later date. The band of plain area encircling the above example was fairly wide and could be Hadrianic or Antonine in date.

Plain Samian ware was almost as rare as the decorated ware, that is, if the minute fragments, too small for identification, are ignored. Only two fragments were large enough to identify the form of vessel of which they formed part. Both these fragments were from dishes of Form 18/31 and 35. The date range of the whole of this Samian ware is from about 60 to 50 A.D. or a little later.

Only one coin was found during almost six months' investigation, this was a much worn barbarous radiate of Tetricus (270-273 A.D.), probably of the 'Pax' type. A similar radiate coin was found by a workman at Purberry Shot.

Two small finds are perhaps worthy of mention. One was a bronze nail cleaner of Roman date; this was found in the upcast on the eastern side of the site quite close to the find spot of the coin. The nail cleaner is 2 inches in length. Sets of these toilet implements were carried by most Romano-British ladies, they were threaded on a small metal bar forming part of an ornamental plate which was attached to a girdle or belt. The ring through which the metal bar could be threaded was broken in this 'Persfield' example. The second small find was that of a fidel nail, a T-shaped nail used to secure horseshoes. One of the arms of T had been broken or worn off. The date of this nail is unknown, although it could possibly be medieval.

During the extreme winter weather at the end of 1962 and early 1963 salvage work on the site became impossible. Subsequently, after a thaw, 'Persfield' was revisited when it was found that garden fences were being dug for the posts belonging to these fences. As this general area had been untouched by prior building excavations, the upcast was carefully studied, but nothing of interest was discovered.

The evidence resulting from observation and salvage at 'Persfield' is better than no evidence at all, but it is a thousand pities that the entire site was not excavated scientifically, before the building company moved in. Only recently, it was learnt that Romano-British pottery sherds had been discovered in the garden many years ago, in the days of the Brock family, the one-time owners. If this had been generally known in the early days of 1962, it might have been possible to mount a full-scale excavation and perhaps our knowledge of this site would have been a good deal more extensive than it is today.

EWELL GROVE COUNTY FIRST SCHOOL, WEST STREET

During the early summer of 1963, I was invited by Mrs Nora Thompson, then the Headmistress of the Ewell Grove County First School, to examine some of the finds which the girls had made whilst digging in a play pit in the orchard at the rear of the school buildings.

Obviously the girls had dug into the soil with great enthusiasm but little skill. Mrs Thompson explained that they belonged to the 11+ age group and had been studying the history of the land on which the School stood. They had discovered that the area had once been farmland and that a farmhouse had occupied part of the site. Professor Sheppard Frere's excavation report had also been studied.

Finds from the play pit were mostly modern, consisting of broken china, coloured glass and modern building materials. Evidence of farm life came from several teeth of horses and other animals, horse bits and well decayed tools. There were also a few fragments of grey Romano-British ware.

In order to foster and develop this new-found interest, I suggested to Mrs Thompson that the girls might like to help me cut a small trench and to collect and record any evidence of previous settlement that we might discover. Not wishing to undertake this exercise in practical excavation alone, I invited the late Mr Cedric Yardley, a valuable fellow member of the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, to help me in this project; he agreed to do so readily.

Care had to be taken to avoid previous cuttings of the earlier excavation and finally a spot was selected some 15 feet from the point where the boundary fence of the orchard joins that belonging to the Grove footpath. The trench measures 4 feet square and some 4 feet from the latter fence.

On Thursday afternoons throughout June and the first week in July, a group of six girls – unfortunately not the same group each week – were instructed in the techniques employed in modern scientific excavation. Each member of the group was given a specific job, one to dig, one to carry the upcast soil away, one to check this spoil heaps in case anything of interest was missed, one to record and two to clean and sort the finds. These finds were not considerable, but were none the less interesting, including several Romano-British rim fragments, two small pieces of Samian ware, some flints and a medieval sherd showing greenish-yellow glaze.

At the conclusion of the exercise, Mrs Thompson was able to obtain a small glass topped exhibition case for the school in order that the finds might be kept securely and placed on permanent display.

In a subsequent report on the project in the 'Surrey Teacher', Mrs Thompson wrote, "the whole enterprise has been thoroughly enjoyed. I commend this to all primary schools as a most interesting approach to History."

It was almost two years later, in April 1965, that I was given another opportunity of examining yet another 'excavation' in the school orchard. I had been informed by Miss C.E. Smith, the Headmistress, that a trench was being dug across the churchyard to take an electric cable from the Grove footpath to a transformer situated behind the present buildings on the old 'Lord Nelson' site.

Unfortunately on arrival the cable had been laid and about three quarters of the upcast soil had been replaced in the trench. Even so, Romano-British pottery fragments were retrieved from the remaining upcast and Neolithic flint core.

Owing to the rapidity of filling-in operations, it was impossible to observe the stratification along the whole length of the cutting. At its northern end there appeared to be about 1 foot 6 inches of dark top soil followed by a depth of brown loam and then sandy clay. This stratification is exactly the same as that encountered in the school archaeological exercise.

From a study of the plan of the cuttings made by Professor Frere in 1939-40 it would seem that the cable trench kept clear of the previous excavation.

Amongst the pottery were five rim fragments. Two were from shallow rimless dishes in coarse grey ware, one with a depth of $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches and the other of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The third rim was from a mortarium of buff-pink sandy ware with flint or quartzite embedded in its interior walls to give strength to the vessel or more probably to facilitate culinary pounding. A similar vessel was found in the 1939-40 excavation and dated not later than early third century. The remaining rim fragments were from an everted jar rim which showed vestiges of black slip on the grey paste and a very worn and fractured cavetto rim of indeterminate date.

CHAPTER V

THE 'LORD NELSON' SITE, HIGH STREET, JULY 1964-SEPTEMBER 1965

This site is situated on the western side of the High Street and has a frontage of approximately 217 feet and included the old 'Lord Nelson' public house, five small cottages, Nos. 62-70 High Street and the Ewell Social Club. The depth of this site from the building line at its southernmost end is approximately 100 feet to the boundary of the Ewell Grove First School and narrows very considerably as the Social Club is approached at its northern end.

Bearing in mind Professor Frere's excavation in the school orchard, the greater part of which lies adjacent to the site, when a complex of ditches containing Roman pottery were discovered, a close watch was kept on trenching for any traces of these ditches extending into the site. Apart from some deposits of dark silt in the cuttings to the south, nothing very conclusive was observed.

In the early stages of building operations, a coin of Hadrian, said to have been in a good state of preservation was found. This find was verified by the site foreman, who disclosed the information that the discovery had been made in the southern sector. The coin, together with various fragments of Roman pottery, were sent to the British Museum for positive identification and returned to the foreman. Subsequently it was learned that the coin had been mislaid on the site, and, to the best of my knowledge, was never found. A report on these early discoveries appeared in the local press in September, 1964.

On the occasion of my first visit to the site, building operations were well advanced to the south of the site and foundation trenches were being sealed with concrete. Drainage trenches were, however, being dug providing upcast soil for examination. There was also a large mound of soil consisting of both residue from foundation trenching and from drainage cuttings at the southernmost point of the site close to the school boundary fence.

To the north, a foundation trench 4 feet deep was being cut at right angles to the school drive. Some of the topsoil resulting from levelling off this area was still piled along the school boundary fence and, although examined closely, was found to contain only a few small fragments of Romano-British coarse grey ware. On the other hand, piled upcast in both the northern and southern sectors of the site were found to contain considerable quantities of pottery of Roman date.

A decision to examine the surface of the upcast firstly in the northern sector of this stage proved fortunate as, on the occasion of my next visit to the site, the soil had completely disappeared, having been transported elsewhere. This examination, which took several hours, proved worthwhile resulting in the salvage of a quantity of pottery fragments consisting of several rims and bases of vessels and almost the whole of a handle of an amphora of the pot-bellied type so often used in crematory burials. Pieces of Roman building material also lay scattered over the surface and included pieces of brick and flanged roofing tile. Only one rim of plain Samian ware came from this location, that of a dish of Form 35 decorated with leaves on barbotine.

On demolition, the Social Club was seen to have possessed cellars which were deep enough to have completely obliterated Roman levels over the entire land area occupied by this

building. It should be said, however, that at a point just beyond the front northern corner of the Club, trenching struck what must have been a Roman rubbish pit, which I understand extended in depth well in excess of 8 feet. I was not present when this was discovered, but was able to examine a large amount of soil which came from the pit. This soil was dark and loamy and contained a considerable amount of animal bones, oyster and mussel shells, charcoal and a good deal of broken pottery. Dating evidence from this pottery suggests that the pit was probably dug about mid-first century.

The mussel shells seemed uniformly small, measuring just over 1½ inches in length and ½ inch wide at their widest point. When the earth had been removed from them they possessed a pale purplish or mauve colouration. I have not had the opportunity to examine mussel shells from any other Romano-British site to compare size of shells and colouration, but it may well be that these were young shell fish, and, as such, may have been considered a delicacy by both Romans and Romanised Britons; I can, however, find nothing to support this theory.

Trending on the west of the site struck another area of soft loamy soil which had to be dug out. This soil contained a small quantity of Samian ware and coarse pottery sherds together with an almost complete first century jar and a small cup of buff paste with part of its side missing. The cup had vestiges of olive green colour coat still adhering to its surface. These vessels were retained by the site foreman who allowed me to measure and draw them on request. Building material was also present in the shape of almost complete bricks and a very large fragment of flanged roofing tile. Some very large animal bones were also encountered. The edge of the pit was clearly visible in dark outline against the side of the trench and appeared to be bag-shaped. A drainage trench at no great distance from this pit also produced a quantity of pottery and it is possible that the pit extended into this trenching. The loamy infill of the pit disappeared at a depth of 15 feet, when chalk was encountered.

The cottages, Nos. 62-70, fronting the High Street, were demolished during the second week in August. There appeared to be a brick-lined well behind a flint stone wall at the rear and between Nos. 62 and 64. This well was approximately 3 feet 6 inches in diameter and, allowing for the removal of part of the topsoil when the site was levelled off, would perhaps be 1 foot or more below the mean ground level.

Foundation trenching also cut into an earlier chalk block well (TQ 21978 6246). A full description of this well as observed by members of the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society appeared in their 'Bulletin'. According to this report no dateable material was recovered from the construction pit. I have in my possession glazed pottery which was given to me by one of the labourers who claimed that the sherds came from this well. If the pottery did, in fact, come from the well, then perhaps a medieval date is possible for its construction.

THE POTTERY

Romano-British pottery was found in all the building excavations except in one soakaway situated in the southern sector of the site. Some 170+ rims were collected, three rims being found on the surface just prior to the surfacing of the car park at the rear of the present buildings. Only 9 rims of plain Samian ware were recovered and only one sherd of decorated ware showing ovolo ornamentation.

SOUTH SPOIL HEAP

This up-cast soil remained on the site almost to the end of building operations and it was possible to examine it completely. Some 65 rim fragments were collected from this location; 4 of these were of plain Samian ware, 3 came from rims of cups, 2 of Form 27 and one of Form 33. One of the cups (Form 27) had been repaired with a lead rivet which was still in place. It is interesting to note that a plain Samian ware bowl of Form 31, discovered during the excavations in the school orchard adjoining this site, also contained a repairing rivet. The remaining Samian fragment was from a bowl of Form 18/31.

Of the rims in coarse ware, those belonging to pie-dishes were the more numerous; 15 rims were discovered representing 14 different vessels. From these it would appear that there are at least four different types of bead rim. One type possesses a triangular-shaped bead, the second type is heavier and more rounded, the third is an intermediate type neither definitely rounded nor triangular, whilst a fourth is curved and at right angles to the vessel wall. Similar vessels found in stratified levels at Purberry Shot were dated Hadrianic/Antonine, but it is possible that examples possessing the heavy rounded bead, straight sides and of greater depth than the norm, could be of later date.

There was only one rim belonging to the head-rim cooking jar of the first century, but there were several rims belonging to vessels of the necked-jar and other derivative types. These could range in date from about 60 A.D. to the second century. Also belonging to the first century was a reeded rim of a carinated dish; this type was common at Purberry Shot and dated to the second half of the first century. Other late first and early second century types were represented by poppy-head beakers and jars with everted rims. There were a few early cavetto rims and one rim from a dish of Antonine date.

The third century was represented by several rims from jars in coarse sandy ware, the rim is usually heavy and beaded, whereas some are more angular but all are undercut. Examples of this type of rim were also found in the rubbish pit partially excavated by Mr. Tom Walls in the grounds of Glyn House, they were also prominent both at 'Persfield' and at 56/58 High Street. Amongst this pottery was a fragment with beaded rim from a red colour-coated bowl with a band of rouletting below the rim. This vessel cannot be earlier than mid-third century.

The flanged dish, a common type in the third to fourth century, was scarce on the site and only two examples came from the southern sector. One of these dishes is considerably larger than the other and is decorated with obtuse-angled burnished latticework of lines on its exterior walls; this type of decoration is rather uncommon on this type of vessel. The smaller dish rim possesses a more pronounced bead and this rises considerably above the level of the flange. It is possible that the larger vessel is of third century and the smaller of fourth century date.

Although one or two body sherds of the standard fourth century cooking jars with undercut rims and striated surfaces were discovered in this upcast, no rim fragments were encountered, nor were any found on the remainder of the site. Parallel examples for the remaining late rim sherds can be found in the products from the Overwey Kilns at Tilford, but the majority of the fragments taken from this sector seem to belong to the second half of the first century and the second century and of these those belonging to the Hadrianic/Antonine period predominate.

SHERD WITH FACE OF SILENUS

The face or mask in relief is that of an elderly man with flowing beard and wearing a tight-fitting skull cap. SILENUS appears in Greek mythology as a satyr and is sometimes described as a son of Hermes or Pan and a companion of Dionysus. Poets of the times sometime refer to a number of Sileni who possess the attributes of Silenus, an elderly drunken satyr.

Due to exposure, the pottery fragment is faded and worn in places so that the golden brown paste shows through the colour coat which was once obviously a glossy black. This original colouration can still be seen on the interior wall of the fragment. The ware is obviously Rhinish and this frontal mask was in all probability one of several decorating a beaker or drinking cup. The only parallel is a similar sherd, No. 187, figured in 'Art in Roman Britain' by J.M.C. Toynbee (catalogue No. 151). This fragment came from Verulamium and is dated late second or early third century. The Ewell Silenus fragment measures 1 11/16" x 3/4" and the National Grid reference is TQ 2196 6243.

BRONZE BROOCH

This brooch came from the same part of the mound of upcast (TQ 2196 6243) as the decorated pottery fragment described above and belongs to Collingwood Type H; the bow of the brooch is humped forward over the junction of the arms protruding like the forehead of a dolphin. The bow is ornamented with a beaded keel along the fore-edge, the catch plate is pierced but the pin attached to the spring at the top of the brooch is missing.

The amount of building material from this sector is negligible, but there were several pieces of wattle and daub which seemed to be associated with the Romano-British pottery. It was noticed that many of these pottery fragments had lime adhering to them.

NORTH SPOIL HEAP

As already described, it was only possible to carry out a cursory examination of the surface of this mound of upcast. Thirteen rim fragments were however found including one rim of Samian ware and one of imitation Samian ware; this was from a flanged bowl with almost the whole of the flange broken off. The remainder of the rims were of coarse ware.

These were of first and second century date, similar to those taken from the southern sector. Besides the flanged bowl mentioned above there was only one other rim of third century date. The fourth century was represented by a late cavetto rim and there was a rim from a shallow dish with a scratched X on its exterior wall, this type of dish is really indeterminate in unstratified levels.

Only a few decorated coarse ware sherds were found in the northern sector compared with some 16 different varieties of ornamentation from the south of the site. Among the decorated sherds found in the north was a very small black fragment with a band of rouletting and bands of trailed white slip, but it is possible that this was a piece of 'New Forest' ware.

FINDS OTHER THAN POTTERY

One flint was found and this is probably an axe sharpening flake of glossy white flint, this may be of similar date to a fragment of a discoidal knife found on the adjoining site, 56/58 High Street, which was of the secondary Neolithic period.

RUBBISH PIT I

The two almost complete vessels taken from this pit were a small jar with a cavetto rim with its base entirely missing and a small beaker with part of its rim and side missing. The first vessel measures $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches high and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, the estimated diameter of its base 2 inches. This jar is of grey sandy ware and the decoration is a series of vertical burnished lined round the body. The date is probably late first or early second century. The second vessel measures $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches high, diameter at its mouth 2 inches and $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches at its base. The paste is buff-coloured. A second century date for this beaker is likely.

Seven other pottery rim fragments emanating from this pit were also given to me by the site foreman. Two of the rims were from jars of the necked type, one is an early example and the other with its rim turned over flatly probably belongs to the second century. Three were rims from pie dishes and the remainder consisted of two rims from butt-beakers in buff ware and a third century jar rim in sandy ware.

Only a few of the many miscellaneous sherds from this pit are worthy of note. There are 2 plain bases belonging to grey ware vessels of 3 and 4 inches diameter and the handle of an imported flagon with a single groove, this handle is in buff ware and coated with white slip.

Pottery was also found in a drainage trench at no great distance from Pit I. This consisted of 6 rim fragments, 3 from rims of dishes, one belonging to a dish common in the Antonine period, the others of flanged dishes of the third to fourth century. The remainder were all from jars of second and third century date. Associated with $2\frac{7}{16} \times 2\frac{11}{16} \times \frac{5}{16}$ inches and had been manufactured from some kind of grey stone. The underside of the palette is matt and coarse whilst the top side is polished and shows a distinct depression on its surface due to use. Although this appears to be the first example found at Ewell, palettes are not uncommon on Romano-British sites and were used for mixing pastes and salves. Some had been discovered with the stamps of oculists on their bevelled edges. This fragment is unstamped, the only mark visible being a deliberate and perfectly straight scratch across the under surface of the palette. This just could be a mark of ownership and, if it is, then it is more likely that it was used domestically rather than professionally.

RUBBISH PIT II

It was unfortunate that this pit, situated in the northern sector, could not be fully examined when drainage trenching cut into it. Fortunately part of this area had to be filled with concrete making some of the infill available for examination. The depth of the pit according to one of the labourers was in excess of 8 feet and as the soil from the pit contained a large quantity of sand this could indicate that the pit could have extended in depth to as much as 12 or 13 feet.

Among the pottery fragments were 17 rim sherds which appeared to date from the later decades of the first century to at least the mid-second century. Only 2 rims seemed not to fit

these dates. One sherd was very similar to Iron Age 'A' pottery discovered in the High Street area a little later and the other seems to be a third century cavetto rim.

The remaining rims include:- necked jars (4), early cavetto (3), everted jars (1), a mortarium of the bead and roll type, a jar with a bead and a vertical neck similar to one found on the adjoining 'School' site in 1939-40, which was dated second century and a heavy reeded bowl rim of Antonine date. There were also two fairly large fragments from bowls similar to the late first century decorated bowls found at Purberry Shot. These 'Lord Nelson' fragments were decorated with double incised groups of vertical lines and areas of barbotine dots respectively.

Having mentioned to the site foreman that much more pottery must have gone back into the excavated area with the infill, I was informed that Mr Cedric Yardley had collected a considerable amount of this pottery. Subsequently Mrs W. Yardley was kind enough to let me have this pottery which I was able to examine.

This collection included 38 rim fragments, only one rim being of plain Samian ware. When this pottery is compared with that taken from the residue of the pit infill, the date range is very much the same except it contained nothing pre-Roman. There were also fragments of at least 3 pot lids, one of these in buff-brown ware has a rim folded back and projecting upwards, a similar type from Brockley Hill, 1947, is dated Trajanic. Also included in the group were two flagon handles one single, the other double-grooved and eleven complete pottery bases belonging to a variety of jars and dishes – 4 possessed feet rings and the remainder were plain except 2 which had chamfered bases. The solitary rim of plain Samian ware consisted of two fragments from the same vessel, possibly Form 18. The paste of these fragments was good and the glaze of rich colour and exceedingly glossy.

These coarse ware rims can best be enumerated under types of vessel.

JARS Bead rims (2). Necked jars (9) including derivative types. These would fit into a date range of from 70-140 A.D.
Storage jars with heavy rims curved slightly outwards (3). Early cavetto rimmed jars (4). Neckless jars with horizontal rims and grooves round the shoulder of each vessel(2).

BEAKERS These were of the small everted type with the exception of one which belonged to the 'poppy-head' type.

DISHES Carinated. Antonine type (2). Pie dishes (3) showing lattice decoration and a shallow rimless dish with a curved wall or side.

FLAGONS Ring-neck (1) of late first to early second century date and one belonging to the Hadrianic type c.f. Purberry Shot.
(Sy.A.C. Vol. 50, p.43. Fig.30, No.1)

BOWLS Two or possibly three examples of the Flavian type. c.f. Purberry Shot.
(Sy.A.C. Vol. 50, p.39. Fig.26, Nos.3)

Whilst searching the upcast from the pit a very coarse ware sherd was found possessing part of a potter's stamp. Again, as far as I am aware, this is the first time a sherd of this kind has been found at Ewell. Coarse ware sherds bearing potters' stamps have been discovered elsewhere and usually prove to be quite meaningless.

DRAIN TRENCH NORTH EXTENDING EAST

Towards the end of building operations a drain trench in the northern sector was extended partly across the present High Street to link up with the main sewer. Although a close watch was kept on this cutting for any traces of early road metalling, the evidence was negative apart from a few large gravel flints.

One fragment of decorated Samian ware was found with ovolo decoration which was worn and indistinct, but the tongue of this decoration appeared to be joined to the 'egg' and was much shorter than is normal. Below this ovolo was a band of circular beads. It is possible that a rim of Samian ware found in close proximity to this trench came from the same vessel, a bowl of Form 37.

Rims of coarse ware from this trench came from types of vessels already encountered repeatedly on this site. One platter or shallow dish is, however, interesting, it possessed an oblique wall, rim curved to tip with a vestigial bulge inside. This type is of Belgic ancestry and similar to those found at Purberry Shot, where it was regarded as of pre-Roman date and at Southwark, where it appears to be Antonine.

The evidence of pottery in this trench is important as it seems to point to the fact that the fairly dense pottery scatter at the 'Lord Nelson' site extends beyond the building line eastward.

STAIR WELL CUTTING

This trench produced two fragments of plain Samian ware. A rim from a conical cup with a straight wall as opposed to a slightly concave walled type indicating that it is probably of a first century date. The other sherd is probably from the base of a bowl which is of later date.

Coarse ware rim fragments came from necked jars, a 'poppy head' beaker and jars with early cavetto rims. The only rim sherd worthy of note was from a mortarium similar to one found in the adjoining orchard of the Ewell Grove First School, which was Hadrianic.

SOAKAWAYS

To my knowledge 3 of these were dug to a depth of approximately 6 feet (see Site Plan).

SOAKAWAY I

Produced no pottery, but an area of lime impregnated soil was noted on the west wall of this excavation at a depth of 3 feet. Lime was found adhering to many of the sherds encountered in this general area. It is interesting to notice in this connection that a trough of slaked lime for plastering walls, with fragments of pottery embedded in it were found during the excavation of a Roman villa at Sandilands Road, Walton-on-the-Hill, 1948-1949.

SOAKAWAY II

Six rim fragments were discovered; one from a necked jar, 4 rims from Antonine dishes and one small worn fragment of indeterminate type. Besides these a fragment consisting of a complete base and part of the body of a rotund beaker.

SOAKAWAY III

Contained one rather large fragment of plain Samian ware, perhaps from a bowl of Form 31. This fragment had obviously been burnt as it was of a chocolate-brown colour instead of showing the normal orange-red glaze. The remaining rims in coarse ware include:- Necked jars (4), everted jars (1), cavetto rimmed jars (2), beaded pie dishes (2), pie dishes with horizontal curved rims (1), neckless jar with horizontal rim (1), Antonine dishes with grooved rims (4), a mortarium rim, flanged dishes (4) and a shallow dish or platter with curved sides.

CONCLUSIONS

From the existing pottery evidence, it would appear that the majority of sherds can be assigned to a period of circa 70 A.D. until perhaps the mid-third century, vessels types commonly used in Hadrianic/Antonine times being the more numerous. Fourth century material was present, but in no great quantity and this is a puzzling feature, as later, on the 56-58 High Street site, lying adjacent, it appeared to be quite abundant. It was extremely unfortunate that upcast in this northern sector could not be examined as thoroughly as that from the south.

It was disappointing, too, that so little Samian ware was encountered when so much came to light in the adjacent School orchard. Perhaps it ought to be taken into consideration that a whole world of difference lies between the siting of trenches for purely building purposes and those sited by archaeologists.

Not only was Samian ware scarce, but other fine wares were virtually non-existent on the site. Only one identifiable coin was found. When these factors are coupled with the discovery of fragments of wattle and daub and, if this is of Roman date, then the indications are that the Romanised Britons who inhabited this area were not particularly well-to-do, no doubt earning their living on the nearby farms or by following occupations connected with the busy thoroughfare, Stane Street.

CHAPTER VI

56/58, HIGH STREET, EWELL

Although the observation and salvage work carried out on this site did not occur until October 1965 and is therefore out of chronological sequence, it seems necessary now to describe it here as the site lies adjacent to the old Social Club which formed the northern limit of what I have chosen to call the 'Lord Nelson' site.

Early in 1965, two nineteenth century houses, Nos. 56 and 58 High Street were pulled down in order that a small shop/office block of buildings might be erected. (National Grid reference TQ 2199 6251).

In October of that year the excavation of foundation trenches was commenced and permission to examine these excavations and to salvage material of archaeological interest was readily granted to Mr Len Buckingham and myself by the builders, Messrs Bradley and Arthur of Ewell. The trenches were hand dug by two labourers who were extremely co-operative and helpful throughout the investigation, showing unusual interest and putting aside pottery they had encountered during the course of their work.

The soil over the whole site appeared to be extremely dark in colour and was at least 5 feet deep and never definitely exhausted at any point. In general, the foundation trenches were only 3 feet 9 inches in depth, but this was exceeded when trenching encountered ground disturbance by previous building operations.

During the digging of foundation trenches and soakaways a 2 inch layer of chalk lying on a bed of tightly packed flint was observed at a depth of about 3 feet. It was only possible to examine this structure in the front stanchion foundation pit. The chalk surface was falling 4 inches in 10 feet in both a westerly and southerly direction, but did not appear in the south foundation trench. Unfortunately it was not possible to completely penetrate the underlying flint, nor could a cross section be obtained. It was understandable that further excavation for such a cross section would have delayed building work and added very considerably to its cost.

The same chalk and flint construction was found in the front soakaway pit, the central stanchion pit, the west wall foundation trench and the rear soakaway pit. The depth of the chalk surface at each of these points agrees with the fall observed in the front stanchion pit and appears to follow the general slope of the terrain in this part of Ewell.

Assuming that this was a road and that the alignment is as shown on the site plan, then, when projected in a westerly direction, it would pass through West Street and continue on towards West Ewell Station. In an easterly direction, it would join Stane Street at a point 90 yards south of the old G.P.O. The alignment of the two roads would make an angle of 80 degrees.

During the trenching of the site, a brick soakaway was encountered similar to those on the Supermarket, Lord Nelson and Glyn House sites.

THE POTTERY

Fragments of Romano-British pottery were discovered in all the trenching, the majority of this coming from the south trench where some of the pieces were the largest so far encountered at Ewell on building sites. These large sherds may be summarised briefly:-

FLANGED DISH

The greater part of two, one small and one large. The small dish had a diameter of 6 inches and the large, a diameter of 12 inches.

FOLDED BEAKER

Two fragments, one consisting of the complete base and about one third of the entire vessel; the other consisted of almost all the rim and wall down to the shoulder of the vessel. The beaker was of Rhenish ware, it was of paste covered with a bronze-brown colour coat.

FLAGON (?)

A dozen fragments in smooth grey ware comprising the whole base and most of the vessel's rotund body. Practically all the neck and the entire rim were missing. The diameter at the base of the neck was less than one inch.

Although the area of the site was approximately the same as that of the Supermarket Site, 82/84 High Street, twice as many pottery fragments were taken from it. Recent excavations at the rear of the King William IV public house have shown that the pottery scatter is very dense in that area. 56 and 58, High Street is at no great distance from that point. It is probable that this may have been the centre of Roman Ewell where occupational debris would tend to be very abundant.

Once again there was a scarcity of Samian ware. Four fragments only are large enough to have any significance. These included 2 rims from bowls of Form 37 and two other body sherds which were decorated in relief. The first of these depicted the head and shoulders of a dancing girl in the style of Carantius and the other mainly decorated with leaves, probably belongs to the Hadrianic/Antonine period. All these pieces are of second century date.

Of the remaining rims, 2 were from beakers of Rhenish ware and one was of Caster ware. Fifty per cent of the rims belonged to the third and fourth centuries. Few rims could be dated first century and of these, the majority belonged to its later decades. There were the common examples of necked jars, everted rimmed jars and the Flavian dish with small reeded rim and moulded sides. There was only one rim from a bead rim cooking pot.

The second century was represented by pie-dishes with beaded rims (3) and examples from dishes with horizontal or slightly curved rims, usually grooved at junction of rim and wall of the vessel making a flattish bead which is usually level with the remainder of the rim. This type which seems to be second century date and constitutes a stage in the evolution of the dish which culminated in the third to fourth century flanged dish.

Rim sherds of the third and fourth century were firmly represented. Rims belonging to large and medium-sized storage jars were numerous. There was at least one of the 'cable' or 'rope'

rim type, identical to those found in the School orchard excavation. One of the body sherds from this type of jar showed wide incised grooves in lattice pattern on its interior wall. Two massive jars possessed thick elongated beads, sometimes referred to as of the 'turnover' type similar to those excavated at Site '507' (Farnham) and Farley Heath. Three other rims from large storage jars are similar to type from the 'Snailslynch' kiln at Farnham; these heavy rims are squarish in section, grooved and undercut. These jars are usually decorated on the lower part of the shoulder with a band of simple, incised pattern and many are coated with white slip. Several thick sherds of this kind bearing similar decoration were encountered and one grey sherd with white slip and marked with incised lines, which the Guildhall Museum believe represent some kind of symbolic decoration; unfortunately the sherd is fractured and the decoration incomplete.

Flanged dish rims which range from the third to the fourth century in date were also plentiful. These rims are usually of grey paste and slip-coated in black or white over bead and flange. There was one example of a flanged bowl, a mid-fourth century type. The flange on this vessel is short and horizontal in relation to the incurving wall which terminates in a groove and bead. The paste of this vessel was brick red and coated with red polished slip on both flange and exterior wall. There were two examples of rims from the standard fourth century cooking jars with horizontally striated bodies and undercut rim, and several from late ca vetto-rimmed jars.

Two mortaria rims for which there appear to be no local parallels are probably later than mid-second century date. The 14 shallow dish rims from the site are indeterminate. Of these, 7 have straight sides and 7 have curved sides including one example grooved below the rim and making a small bead. The wall of one of these dishes contained an incision shaped like an arrowhead, this is probably an ownership mark.

FINDS OTHER THAN POTTERY

A fragment of a discoidal knife of secondary Neolithic date came from the South foundation trench. It is of white flint and beautifully shaped being practically perfect on one side. On the other side it is incomplete and it would seem that the artefact contained a fossiliferous inclusion causing a central structural weakness, which on use resulted in the splitting of the flint. It measures 3 inches in diameter.

Nos. 82-84 HIGH STREET, EWELL

In May, 1963, the top soil of a vacant plot of ground between Nos. 80 and 86 High Street was cleared prior to the erection of a supermarket by Messrs Bradley and Arthur of Ewell. Due to the kindness of Miss C.E. Smith, the headmistress of the Ewell Grove First School, I was informed not only that foundation trenches were about to be dug but that permission had been obtained for me to investigate the site.

The area of ground about to be trenched was of irregular shape and stood well back from the line of the High Street. It possessed a frontage of approximately 32 feet and this widens considerably to 55 feet at the rear of the site. The distance from the building line to the boundary fence at the school orchard was about 80 feet.

It seemed important to learn whether the pottery scatter discovered in the orchard extended over this site as it had done over the whole of the 'Lord Nelson' and the adjacent site of Nos. 56-58 High Street. Positive evidence from this most southerly site on the western side of the

High Street would show that there was almost a continuous scatter of Romano-British pottery from Ewell Grove northwards.

Although the area of the site to be investigated was relatively smaller than either 'Persfield'; or the 'Lord Nelson', it proved much too large to be given the thorough detailed examination it deserved. Mounds of upcast soil which are essential to the investigator are more often than not quickly transported by the builders elsewhere simply to make room. One such mound of soil was removed by the builders from this site to the Downs Road area during the initial stages of building operations, and from evidence collected from other grounds it is certain the soil contained archaeological evidence. It would seem, then, that it is of paramount importance that the destination of such transportations of soil should not only be recorded by the builder but that this information should be duly reported to local archaeological societies and other interested bodies in order to avoid future confusion.

The geological make-up of the soil on the site was identical to that encountered previously on the school orchard and 'Lord Nelson' sites, except that, at this southern end of the High Street, the depth of top soil is not so great as that observed at the northern end.

All foundation trenches disclosed Romano-British pottery sherds, the densest scatter coming from the southern site. Amongst this pottery were 47 rim fragments from different vessels and included 2 rims of Samian ware. One of these was from a shallow bowl of Form 18 and the other from a smaller dish of Form 36 decorated with leaves in relief. Another sherd formed part of the base of a bowl or dish of probable Form 18/31. No decorated Samian ware, apart from the rim of Form 36, usually considered a plain form, was discovered.

Of the rims in coarse ware, the majority appear to date from late first century and cover the second century with a few rims of later date. Only one example of a first century bead-rim jar was encountered compared with 10 such rims at Persfield, a little farther to the south. At the south-west corner of the site close to the orchard boundary, several Iron Age 'A' sherds were found and almost from the same spot a re-used flint core.

First and second century rims came from the following vessels:- necked jars (9), beakers of the 'poppy-head' type (4), pie-dishes with bead rims (3), a mortarium rim (1), jars with cavetto rims (4).

Only one fragment of Castor ware was found, this was of orange paste with a bluish-black colour coat; this piece would not be earlier than 180 A.D. and could be later. As already noted, few rims could be dated as late. A fragment of a bead rim bowl with a red colour coat is probably not earlier than 250 A.D. If the 'rope' rims of storage jars discovered by Prof. Sheppard Frere during 1939-1940 do belong to the mid-fourth century then a similar rim from this site could also be late. Other late rim sherds belonged to a 2 flanged dishes. There were no examples of common fourth century types, viz jars with cavetto rims and those with striated bodies and undercut rims. One rim, probably the first of its kind to be found at Ewell, possessed a squarish shape which had been decorated with various indentations. The paste was brick-coloured and was coated with buff slip. The vessel is probably a bowl and is perhaps reminiscent of other bowl rims from the Overwey kilns at Tilford, which are of fourth century manufacture.

Only 20% of the miscellaneous coarse ware sherds were decorated, of these the greater number showed pattern types which are usually associated with first and second century

vessels. These included burnished lines slanting in opposite directions and generally occupying the area between the cordons of first century jars and bowls, one example of nodular rustic ware, a scattering of clay knobs over the body of a vessel, the potter achieved this by applying his fingers to the wet clay and swiftly removing them. It is interesting to note here that some vessels from the Ewell Shafts are described as of 'thorny' ware; it may well be that 'rustic' ware was described in this way in the nineteenth century.

There were also examples showing groups of pin-head sized sots in relief on the surface of pottery sherds. This type of decoration was commonly employed on 'poppyhead' beakers and could be illustrative of a later phase in the evolution of the nodular type of decoration. Another fragment from the wall of a cylindrical bowl, in imitation of the Samian Form 30, showing a series of lines forming a U-pattern and executed with a fine toothed comb, above the combed decoration was the vestiges of a worn band of rouletting. The surface of the bowl was dusted with mica and the vessel originally must have had a handsome golden sheen.

One solitary rim from the common shallow dish or platter was encountered and this was decorated with a burnished interlocking arch-pattern, this type of decoration is more commonly used on the exterior wall of late flanged dishes.

There was little building material of Roman date, the only sizeable fragment was from a flanged roofing tile. None of the trenches disclosed any structures except a brick soakaway at the northern end of the rear foundation trench parallel to the orchard boundary fence.

Intermingled with the upcast soil was the usual occupational debris which consisted mainly of bone, oyster shells, charcoal and several lumps of metal conglomerate, possibly bronze.

It would seem that this site was occupied during the latter half of the first century, throughout the second and possibly well into the third century. That there is positive evidence of a Romano-British pottery scatter extending eastward from the orchard to the building line on the High Street and a continuous scatter down the western side of the High Street from Ewell Grove to the centre of Ewell, seems to be proven.

CHAPTER VII

CHURCH STREET, EWELL

During June 1963 foundation trenches for one detached and three terraced houses were excavated on the south-east, north-west arm of Church Street, the site is opposite No. 3 Graveyard. It is about 40 yards wide and 45 yards deep and lies between Nos. 16A and 20 Church Street, the National Grid reference is TQ 221 628. In the reconstructed plan of Ewell for 1577 by Margaret H. Glyn it is shown as part of the Church Field and at a later date must have formed part of Church Farm. At some time in its more recent history it would appear to have been used as a rubbish tip. Latterly, Mr. H.A. Green carried on a business of haulage contracting there.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The entire site had a superficial covering of modern rubbish. A walnut tree, said to be at least 70 years old, stood on the site but was cut down shortly before the building excavation commenced. This excavation revealed two unusual features. Firstly, a layer of chalk 6 inches in depth was disclosed, this layer followed the contour of the land but could only be observed where trenching took place and it is not known whether it covered the whole site. Secondly, there was an unusual depth of topsoil similar to that experienced at 56/58 High Street. Seven soakaways were dug to a depth of 6 feet and only two of these penetrated the top soil. It is interesting to note in this connection that in his book, 'With a Spade on Stane Street', S.E. Winbolt mentions the discovery in 1929 of a Roman floor and oyster shells at a depth of 6 feet in this immediate area.

BUILDING EXCAVATION

The foundation trenches were taken down to a depth of 2 feet 8 inches (i.e. 2 feet 8 inches from the underside of the chalk layer) and the domestic drainage trenching fell 1:40 from the chalk level. All these cuttings were made by a mechanical excavator which allowed little time for detailed examination before they were sealed by concrete.

FINDS

Small fragments of Romano-British coarse pottery dating from the first century to the end of the second century were found in all the trenches, but the scatter was less dense than that occurring on other sites. In most cases the sherds were in a good state of preservation.

Two large sherds, one comprising the whole of the rim and neck of a ring-neck flagon came from the second cross trench, the other from a necked jar was encountered in the fourth, both fragments were at a depth of 2 feet 8 inches.

Examination of the sides of trenches showed the position of post holes, but none of these went deeper than 1 foot 8 inches. In the third cross trench another layer of chalk was found at 1 foot 10 inches. Three chalk floors were discovered and are shown on the site plan, their size, however, is only approximate.

Large fragments of another first century jar of grey coarse ware were found in Soakaway B at a depth greater than 3 feet, while soakaways F and G produced considerable quantities of pottery.

SOAKAWAY F

In the first few feet below the chalk a few abraded pottery sherds were discovered. At a depth of 4 feet 6 inches a largish fragment of grey stone, probably from a quern, came from the south-west wall. When the soakaway had been completed, a number of sherds together with pieces of bone were taken from the same spot. (TQ 2211 6288). These included 14 rims belonging to different vessels clustered on a bed of charcoal. Working upwards, the jaw bone on an ox or horse was encountered 10 inches above this charcoal layer. The soil in this area contained a very large amount of coarse grit, above this the soil became similar in texture and colour to the surrounding top soil. In the north-eastern wall of the soakaway, just above the clay line, was a bed of small stones 2 inches deep and 2 feet wide, depressed 2 inches at its centre relative to the ends of the bed, these stones were cemented together presumably with silica.

SOAKAWAY G

Thanet sand was found at a depth of 3 feet which, after allowing 9 inches for soil deposited during the surface scraping of the site after demolition of a barn, makes the topsoil at this point about 2 feet deep instead of a depth of 4 feet 6 inches to 6 feet or more encountered on other parts of the site.

The excavated pit cut through what appeared to be the edge of a very old road whose metalling lay directly on the underlying sand. As seen in the pit, this metalling was composed of flints of between 2 to 6 inches maximum dimension in layers with 'hoggin' (i.e a mixture of clay and gravel.) The bottom 15 inches of stone was very hard-packed and seemed to be cemented together so that separation was only possible by using a pick axe. Above this hard pack, the top soil contained a very large proportion of similar flints, their number decreasing towards the surface. At this point the road material would have been within ploughing depth.

Large flints of up to 18 inches dimension had been found scattered over the entire site. Seasonal digging in nearby gardens have revealed many more.

THE ROAD (National grid reference TQ 2213 6290)

An exploratory trench was dug in front of Soakaway G and this produced a full section of the road. At this point, the subsoil is of yellow sand (Thanet Beds) and the road lies directly on this. The sand was only slightly oxidised and there was no sign of vegetation or topsoil under the road material.

In Soakaway G where the road was first discovered, points on opposite faces having similar contours were joined to form a reference line parallel to the assumed line of the road and the exploratory trench was cut as near as possible to this line. It was not possible to cut a straight trench due to certain obstructions, however the curvature only amounted to 1 foot 3 inches in 28 feet. This cutting was made using a mechanical excavator and squared by hand.

Measurements of the cross section were made at intervals of 2 feet, with additions as were found necessary.

The whole area of Thanet Sand under the road was covered with a 3 inch layer of flints measuring not more than 3½ x 2 x 1½ inches, these came from a gravel source.

From point 6 to point 18 (the numbers representing the distance in feet of the road section) there was an additional layer of flint, mostly of 2 inch gauge, which appeared to have come from a chalk source. Above this was a layer of flints of similar gauge from a gravel source and varying in thickness from 10 inches at point 10 to 0 inches at point 18. At point 16 the brown and white flint layers end abruptly. All these flint layers were very tightly packed, the interstices being filled with a mixture of gravel and sand, partly cemented by silica. Also, at point 6 there was evidence of the soil having been disturbed and this was traceable upwards for 2 feet. On the foundation layer, at this point, pieces of first century pottery together with fragments of bone were recovered, charcoal was also present with the pottery, the bone, however, was unburnt. In this disturbed area, the top soil contained many large flints, but the number of smaller stones was greatly reduced and the soil was black.

Of the 38 rim fragments recovered from the site, only 2 were of Samian ware belonging to cups of Forma point 6 to 20, there was an overall of top soil containing many large flints compared with other parts of the site. At this point the top soil was only 2 feet 3 inches deep.

The contour of the underlying sand was falling at a greater rate than the present land surface.

It will be seen from the site plan that an extension of Capt. Lowther's alignment of Stane Street from the London Road would pass through the point at which the excavation was made. There was, however, no evidence of road metalling in either Soakaway C or in foundation trenches south-west of the cutting across the road.

FINDS OTHER THAN POTTERY

Flint flakes of probable Mesolithic date were recovered from the road metalling, similar flints were found in association with the metalling of Stane Street on the old Fair Field site in 1934.

Only one fragment of Roman building material was encountered; this was a piece of flue tile which measured 3½ by 1¾ inches. The decoration on the tile had been executed by using a comb and was similar to many fragments of flue tile discovered at 'Persfield'.

One coin was found by a workman during the building excavations, this was a badly worn third brass of Constantine Chlorus (292-305 A.D.)

Close to the find spot of this coin, a bronze roundel measuring approximately one inch in diameter was discovered. In appearance and decoration it strongly resembles a wooden draught's counter. The roundel, which is hollow inside, is 1/5 of an inch thick and possesses two horizontal apertures on either side. Mr Norman Cook, Director of the Guildhall Museum, who examined it, is of the opinion that it could be of Roman date and has suggested that it may be a harness mount; the apertures would have allowed a leather strap to be threaded through them.

SUMMARY OF THE POTTERY

Of the 38 rim fragments recovered from the site, only 2 were of Samian ware belonging to cups of Forms 27 and 33. The former sherd came from the 'road' cutting and the other from a depth of 4 feet 6 inches in Soakaway F. One piece of decorated Samian ware was also discovered from the trench across the road, the figure depicted on the sherd is of a satyr playing a reed pipe (Oswald Figure Type 09); this piece probably belongs to the period of Vespasian/Domitian.

The remaining 36 rims can most probably be dated to the period 70-150 A.D. or a little later and the greater proportion of those are likely to be late first century. The most common rim type was that of the necked or cordoned jar and bowl. Only two rims belonging to the first century bead-rim jars were found; it is thought that this type of cooking jar was common in Surrey until about 80 A.D. when it was superseded by the necked type of vessel mentioned above.

It is interesting to note that all the pottery fragments found in association with the road were of first century date. A similar dating can also be given to the group of pottery found closely clustered together in Soakaway F. From this location came several fragments from an interesting form of bowl or whitish-cream coloured ware with a large overhanging flange. This, too, belongs to the late first century and is obviously an import.

Three of the rims are not of early date and belong to fanged dishes. One possesses a heavily beaded flange and could be late second or early third century, but the others are of third or fourth century type. These rims were all found on the surface and could be intrusive. Quantities of late Roman pottery have been found both in the grounds of Glyn House and No. 4 Graveyard at no great distance from this site.

CONCLUSIONS

From the limited amount of investigation that could be given to the Church Street site, (this type of investigation must always be limited when compared with thorough scientific excavation) and from a very tentative dating of the pottery recovered there seems to have been occupation on or near this site from the late first century until perhaps the beginning of the third century.

The piece of ancient road discovered in Soakaway G and in the exploratory trench is on the Nonsuch alignment of Stane Street. If this is in fact Stane Street then it must be very near the point where it changed direction to the old Fair Field alignment. It comes as no surprise that Romanised Britons using Romanised pottery should occupy areas close to the road on which their livelihood depended.

NOTE ON DRAINAGE TRENCH

During the cutting of this trench to connect with the sewer, it was possible to obtain a cross section of the upper arm of Church Street for a little more than half its width. Starting about 8 inches out from the edge of the present road, the soil becomes increasingly compacted with very few flint stones, there was also a complete absence of both chalk and charcoal

fragments. It may be concluded that, at this point, the present Church Street is not on the site of an older road.

CHAPTER VIII

'CEDAR KEYS', EPSOM ROAD

In February 1966, Mr McDermott, head gardener at Bourne Hall, who had already greatly assisted me in my work on that site, encountered fragments of Romano-British pottery while digging in the back garden of 'Cedar Keys', a large house situated on the Epsom Road. This house is adjacent to Purberry Shot and stands to the south of it. In his excavation report on 'Purberry Shot', Capt. Lowther mentions that two first century coins of Vespasian had been found there. The majority of the pottery was found at a depth of 2 feet 9 inches and consisted of 18 sherds, 2 were of Samian ware, the remainder being of coarse ware. I have selected 5 of these fragments as being worthy of note.

THE POTTERY

- (1) A decorated fragment of Samian ware, this fragment was too small to determine The exact nature of the decoration. It probably belonged to a hemispherical bowl of Form 37.
- (2) Part of the rim of a cup of Form 27 in plain Samian ware. The rim is badly fractured. Possibly of first century manufacture.
- (3) &Rim fragments of necked jars of sandy coarse grey-buff ware were covered with
- (4) Dark grey slip. These fragments are probably from the same vessel. Late first century.
- (5) A fragment of grey ware covered with buff slip representing about one-third of of the base of a vessel. Another sherd from the shoulder and neck of a jar was found in close association with the former fragment. These sherds are of the same colour and texture and belong to the same vessel, a cordoned necked jar of first century date.

From this evidence, it would appear that the pottery scatter at 'Purberry Shot' extends towards the Kingsway, Ewell. In view of this and the distinct possibility that the Roman road discovered at 'Purberry Shot' also continued southward away from Ewell, it seemed imperative to keep a close watch on the proposed building of a bungalow which was about to take place on a piece of land at the bottom of the back garden of the house called 'Lurghy Vale', which is next door to 'Cedar Keys' and adjacent to the Kingsway.

'LURGHY VALE', EPSOM ROAD. (National Grid reference TQ 2181 6208)

In May 1966, 75 feet of the back garden belonging to a house called 'Lurghy Vale', situated on the corner where the Kingsway makes junction with the Epsom Road, had been sold as a building plot for the erection of a bungalow and garage.

The topsoil was found to be 3 feet deep. Fragments of Romano-British pottery were found in all the trenches at varying depths, the main concentration occurring at point A (see Site Plan) at a depth of 2 feet 9 inches.

The subsoil was the yellow sand of the Thanet Beds, but at a depth of 2 feet in the trenching, shown hatched, flint and gravel was found to the depth of about one foot. The flints were

tightly packed directly on the sand and covered by a mixture of gravel and sand. The same formation was found throughout the length of the sewer trench and at the first manhole. Here the depth of the gravel layer was 4 feet, but as the present level of the road is 2 feet above that of the 'bungalow site', it would appear that the gravel surface is level. No such formation was found in the remaining trenches, the garage or soakaway pit C, but very considerable quantities of very large flint stones were found in the trench adjoining point B. The trench extending to the rear of the first manhole was very shallow and did not produce any finds.

During the laying of the drain for the bungalow to the sewer, a cross section at Kingsway was obtained. The remains of an old road was traceable along the north edge of the present road. This road was 6 feet wide and the metalling consisted of brick and flint to a depth of 1 foot 6 inches. The road is shown on the 1878 OS.map and led to the old Ewell Brickworks.

POTTERY

The amount of Romano-British pottery recovered from the site was small.

The majority of the rim fragments appear to be within the date range of 70-180 A.D. Apart from three sherds, the pottery consists of types with similar dates to those belonging to the Roman period, recovered from both Purberry Shot and Cedar Keys.

Of the pottery later than 180 A.D. (the date given for the construction for the Roman road discovered at Purberry Shot), one rim fragment belonged to a storage jar, this rim was square in profile and undercut which should at least indicate a third century date. The decorated sherd is from the shoulder of a large jar which shows a band of combed latticework, the other is from the base of perhaps a flanged dish with geometric scroll decoration.

Although both these sites produced little pottery in comparison to other local sites investigated, they were both interesting and important. The indications are strong, that the occupational evidence discovered at Purberry Shot does indeed extend southwards as far as the Kingsway. It is also possible that the metalling observed in the cuttings at 'Lurghy Vale' is, in fact, part of the Purberry Shot Roman road, the composition of the metalling is similar and on the same line.

CHAPTER IX

I. The Pre-Roman Period

Before making an attempt to describe the probable nature and extent of the Roman station at Ewell, it is necessary to try to envisage the locality prior to the Claudian invasion of 45 A.D. One can be reasonably certain that there were grass-bearing uplands to the east and south-east, centrally the outcrop of tertiary sands provided excellent arable land while to the north stretched the heavy London clay. Then as now, where the fertile strip of land made junction with the clay perennial springs rose and discharged ample supplies of fresh water and, this water, augmented by numerous subterranean streams, formed a very considerable river-head.

Archaeology has shown plainly that the economic basis of pre-Roman Britain was one of subsistence agriculture. The bulk of its population had to depend on the land if cultivated for its food supply, hence the pattern of human settlement was dictated by the existence of soil best suited for such cultivation and the accessibility of water.

Centrally, at Ewell, one could reasonably expect to encounter evidence of pre-Roman settlement, at least traces of timber-framed huts with associated domestic material and each dwelling possessing an attached smallholding on good arable land within easy reach of the springs.

During the excavation of Stane Street on the old Fair Field site in 1934, S.E. Winbolt reported that trenching had uncovered a number of post-holes predating the roads construction and added that the Romans, in all probability requisitioned both land and property from the Iron Age Britons without making compensation.

Almost a century later, Romanised Britons may have experienced similar treatment when yet another road was laid down across Purberry Shot, completely destroying a settlement that had been occupied for centuries. Excavation uncovered parts of at least two pebble gravel floors belonging to timber huts, together with considerable quantities of pottery of Iron Age date. The excavation report also contains the significant observation that a stratified layer of dark sandy soil containing pottery fragments was obviously an original ground level which from the manner of distribution of the sherds and other occupational material showed that it had been under the plough during the Iron Age.

Other evidence, consisting mostly of pottery, has been encountered at Ewell House and more recently during excavation to the rear of the King William IV public house. During my own researches, there was slight evidence on most of the sites investigated especially those adjacent to the High Street/Epsom Road and in the northern sector of the grounds belonging to Glyn House.

To the north-east, the heavy London clay was almost certainly densely wooded and generally speaking unsuitable for human settlement. Prior to the construction of Stane Street, trees and undergrowth would have had to be cleared in this area to make way for the road and no doubt it would have been necessary to maintain this clearance from time to time during the Roman period in the interests of security.

The chalk uplands to the east and south-east would have provided excellent pasture land for cattle rearing, but, here and there, iron shod ploughs were no doubt used to break up certain selected areas for crop cultivation. In 1950, Tom Walls excavated such a farmstead at North Looe House, Reigate Road (TQ 228 608). A considerable amount of pottery and other material was discovered associated with three Iron Age pits, these pits had probably once been used for grain storage. The evidence from the pottery indicates that farming activity continued into the fourth century A.D. It would appear that the Pax Romana brought little change to the daily life and customs of the inhabitants of these farmsteads which were often isolated from the main settlement area. In a large number of cases it meant little more than a change in the type of pottery vessels in daily use, these becoming a little more sophisticated. This much can be reasonably deduced from the North Looe site, but until a full report of this important excavation is made available many important questions must remain unanswered. It would, for example, be valuable to know the exact nature and extent of the farming activity and whether or not there were indications of increased prosperity or the reverse during the period of its existence.

An interesting report on an Iron Age farmstead of the Little Woodbury type found at Hawk's Hill, Leatherhead, suggests that 'a very successful animal husbandry was practised there' and the remains of a 'large number of rodents indicates successful arable farming'. This report goes on to show from an analysis of more than two thousand bones recovered, that cattle provided the bulk of the meat eaten (53%), sheep (23%), pig 13%) and horse (10%).

At Ewell, it seems reasonable to suppose that there would have been an increasing demand for farm produce both during the construction of Stane Street and later when the road became the chief artery of trade and commerce for the region.

The farmstead at North Looe is the only known farmstead to date; there were probably others, outliers of the main settlement but linked to it by trackways. Priest Hill suggests itself as a likely area – there was a farm here until a few years ago. Roman coins have been found in the vicinity and a barrow said to have been ploughed out near Priest Hill and others at Longdown and North Looe. An ancient trackway is still traceable from Priest Hill, entering the present Ewell By-pass opposite Staneway House. Roman pottery and coins have been discovered in the 1960's in gardens of Conaways Close, but it is doubtful whether this evidence can be linked with a Priest Hill settlement.

In 1939, two groups of pottery of the South Eastern 'B' type, similar to that found at Purberry Shot, came from two points at the southern end of Nonsuch Park. There were also traces of shallow storage pits together with hearths and pot boilers. The amount of pottery discovered was small and it was thought that the occupation was only slight and of no considerable duration.

Another Iron Age site may have existed on the banks of the Hogsmill River below Ewell Court. Arable strips of land suitable for cultivation can be found in this area, enough to provide for the needs of a small community, while fish from the river and wild-fowl from the marsh could have further augmented its larder.

The point of this evidence, albeit scattered, is that Roman Ewell did not suddenly spring to being from limbo after the Claudian invasion. The Romans found a scattered settlement of Britons already here on excellent agricultural land with access to an abundant water supply. Although the construction of Stane Street spelt doom for part of this ancient settlement,

enough of it survived to form the nucleus of what was to become a small but thriving Roman station.

II. Roman Ewell as envisaged by S.E. Winbolt

In an appendix to his book 'With a Spade on Stane Street' (1936), S.E. Winbolt attempted to conjecture the boundaries of Roman Ewell. He did this with some ingenuity making much of such factors as:-

The central position of the springs, the surviving cross roads (i.e. Church Street-West Street and the High Street), the roads bounding the area and their direction and extension away from it, the alignment of fields on three sides of the area. Winbolt envisaged a rectangular-shaped embanked enclosure measuring 440 yards by 330 yards, similar to, but larger than, Hardham or Alfoldean, posting stations on Stane Street. In the centre of the township two roads crossed at right angles dividing the area into four quarters with each quarter containing several building blocks. The northern side of the rectangle was represented by the upper arm of Church Street, then by a straight line drawn from the point where Church Street meets the London Road to the point of junction of the Chessington Road with the upper arm of Spring Street, from this point along Spring Street and a footpath leading into West Street, then from West Street to the starting point.

The delineation of the boundaries seems very tidy and precise except that it gives the distinct impression of being contrived. The upper arm of Church Street is not an ancient road, nor is there a straight road sufficiently old linking Church Street with the Spring Street-Chessington Road junction, while the footpath from Spring Street through to West Street seems to have been used because there was no other way to conveniently link Spring Street to West Street. The theory that the earthen ramparts surrounding the township, presumably on the line of the roads mentioned above, were at some time thrown into the defensive ditches and levelled off, must surely be pure conjecture. There was no evidence supporting Winbolt's theory in 1936 and there is still not a thread of evidence at the present time. It is also difficult to see how such a defensive system could have negotiated the Hogsmill River, which would have been impossible to avoid. The whole hypothetical reconstruction of Roman Ewell's defensive ramparts appears to be based on the assumption that because Hardham and Alfoldean were so enclosed by earth wall and ditch and were roughly rectangular in shape, it must follow that Roman Ewell was identical in this respect to those posting stations.

Winbolt also assumed that because West Street and part of Church Street were in existence in 1408, then these roads must have originated in the Roman period and formed part of the road grid of the Roman settlement. While this has been found to be true elsewhere, there is no archaeological evidence to support the claim here. The theory that the surviving divided the settlement into four quarters each quarter of insula containing a complex of buildings, cannot be substantiated. It may be said of a cantonal capital like Silchester, which has been totally excavated, but it cannot be said of Ewell.

Many of Winbolt's claims not only lack the support of archaeological evidence, they also appear to be topographically untenable. 'Near the centre(of the township) were the springs', he writes, but even a cursory glance at this land area shows that it is low-lying and contains the riverhead and would be most unsuitable for siting a settlement. 'The ground here', says Cloudeley S. Willis, 'is full of springs of water and the new road was built on faggots. Before this, the water from the pool in the Rectory Garden (i.e. the garden belonging to Glyn

House) flowed over the road to the stream and foot passengers crossed on stepping stones.’ If these conditions prevailed less than a century ago, then, in Roman times, when the water table was considerably higher and the annual rainfall greater, this area must have been waterlogged for the greater part of the year. It seems to me that the Roman surveyors and engineers were very much aware of the unsuitability of this land around the springs for the ‘near centre’ of their station. It is generally accepted that the springs lay on the Nonsuch alignment of Stane Street, but at a point some few yards north of the upper arm of Church Street. Stane Street was made to change direction in order to keep to the chalk and higher ground. Surely land unfit to carry a road would also be unsuitable for even the ‘near centre’ of a Roman station.

The archaeological evidence used by Winbolt in support of his theoretical reconstruction is both insufficient and too widely scattered. His delineation of boundaries shows that the entire land areas of Bourne Hall and Glyn House formed almost half of his township. In the north-western sector of Bourne Hall he notes the discovery of the fourth century burial group previously mentioned. Winbolt was well aware that Roman law forbade intramural burial, but excuses himself by informing us that this law ‘was often evaded especially we may suppose in the fourth century.’ In 1963-4, during the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society’s excavation of the Stable site adjacent to Spring Street, a shallow cinerary burial, thought to have been of second century date, was unearthed. One might well ask was this second burial yet a further flouting of the law by Romanised Britons?

In 1936 the archaeological evidence from the grounds of Glyn House was flimsy enough, a single coin of Trajan having been found close to the House. Since that time evidence obtained from both excavation and systematic searching, over a number of years suggests that there was considerable settlement, at least in the northern sector on the higher ground close to the line of Stane Street. Evidence for the eastern half of Winbolt’s hypothetical township is no more substantial than that for the western section and is almost entirely based on the chance discovery of coins and a fair proportion of these are from areas outside the boundaries he delineates.

In fairness to Winbolt it must be said that he confessed that his theories were not based on the spade evidence he would have liked to possess and admitted that his hypothesis may or may not be authenticated by future excavation and discovery, but hoped that it might stimulate further study and research. Some thirty-six years and more later, although we now possess more knowledge of Roman Ewell to challenge the accuracy of Winbolt’s opinions, we are still a world away from any definitive assessment.

III An Alternative View of Roman Ewell

There has been a considerable amount of evidence collected from excavation and personal research over the last three decades. My own personal investigations have been concerned with pottery scatters, to determine the total area of and the relative densities of these scatters in areas where the soil, for one reason or another, was constantly being disturbed. Regrettably, there are still areas which remain unsearched, areas which have been built upon, consisting of private gardens which raise problems for the would-be investigator, and large areas which have remained grassed over for many years rendering investigation impossible. The importance of these grassed areas depends largely on their proximity to soil yielding positive evidence.

From the topographical evidence, it would seem most unlikely that the centre of the Roman station was at the springs. It is very doubtful whether the boundaries of the settlement area even enclosed the springs, nor does the presence of pottery behind the spring pool in the grounds of Glyn House resolve the matter. A watering place such as this must have been in daily use throughout the Roman period and one would expect to find pottery sherds here whether the place was within or outside the boundaries of the station.

To the south-east of the pool, a considerable amount of Romano-British pottery sherds has been collected from the kitchen garden. It has been suggested that this material and that discovered on Carpenter's Old Bakery site and No. 7 High Street, a little further to the east, can be attributed to soil drift from higher grounds. The small size and bluntness of sherds collected from the area seems to indicate that this might well be the reason for their presence here, but perhaps it should be remembered that the footings of a permanent Roman building were observed in the Market Parade, High Street, during building operations in 1950 and this location is situated almost opposite No. 7 across the road. If these footings did belong to a Roman building, as reported to the Ordnance Survey, Archaeological Division, by Capt. Anthony Lowther of Ashted, then the pottery from the surrounding area could have been associated with this building, and one might expect it to lie within the boundaries of the settlement.

If there is any doubt about the pottery scatter here, there can be none associated with that from the northern part of the grounds belonging to Glyn House on higher grounds. Here, a cultivated bed containing flowers, shrubs and trees, measuring approximately 100 yards by 5 yards and extending from the graveyard wall of the Old Church Tower to that of the present Parish Church of St. Mary's has produced the densest concentration of pottery fragments together with no less than six Roman coins, a bronze mask of Pan or Faunus and the handle finial from a pewter jug decorated in relief by a phallus and fist symbol. The evidence was more considerable at the Old Church Tower end of this flower bed. It was here that a Roman rubbish pit was partially excavated by Tom Walls and found to contain coins and pottery; the coins belonged to the fourth century and the pottery from the late first to the fourth century.

Although the pottery scatter extends for the whole length of this flower bed it thins out appreciably at the Parish Church end, and noticeably so at a point two thirds of the way between the site of the old and the modern churches, this location is approximately on the Nonsuch alignment of Stane Street. Evidence from No. 3 graveyard, which runs parallel to the Glyn flower bed but on the opposite side of the boundary wall, seems to agree with the pattern of density observed from the Glyn House side. Over the years, re-opened graves have produced varying quantities of sherds but little or no pottery has come from graves nearest the present Church.

If an imaginary line from the approximate point above the upper arm of Church Street where Stane Street changes direction is produced along the Nonsuch alignment, it will pass a little to the east of the Glyn spring pool. The majority of the archaeological evidence has come from the east of this line and this evidence increases as Stane Street is approached; it is doubtful whether the areas to the west of this line were within the boundaries of the Roman station, although it is only fair to say that this is mostly grassland, but here and there, where it was possible from time to time to search exposed surfaces, the results were mostly negative.

Besides considerable quantities of pottery fragments from the northern part of the grounds and the kitchen garden, smaller amounts including two coins have come from cultivated beds

around and close to Glyn House and the pottery scatter extends into the Old Graveyard. The whole of this area probably lay within the Roman settlement, but, if it did so, this is more likely to have been due to the course of Stane Street than to the inclusion of the area in a rectangular-shaped township.

On the other side of the Spring Pool, in the grounds of Bourne Hall, recent deep building excavation necessitated by the erection of the Library and Museum produced negative evidence. A few Roman rims have come from the north-western sector of Bourne Hall and others from the Paddock where the Health Centre now stands. The total evidence including the burials would seem to suggest that almost the whole of Bourne Hall lay outside the Roman station. Research made before the demolition of the old Bourne Hall showed that considerable landscaping had taken place in the grounds over the centuries, the topsoil in the Paddock extends to a depth of four feet in places. The presence of pottery here may have been associated with other burials not yet discovered or if discovered not reported, to a small outlier settlement or that they were contained in imported soil.

IV The Old Fair Field, High Street – Epsom Road Sector

Little pottery seems to have been recovered from the Old Fair Field excavation in 1934. The main concern of the excavators during a period of little more than three weeks seems to have been to find Stane Street and determine its direction. Since that time only one coin, Antoninianus of Gallianus, had been reported from the garden of a house named 'Quatrees' in Staneway. No watch appears to have been kept during the erection of houses on this estate; a great pity, since it would be almost impossible to search all the garden soil surfaces thoroughly at the present time, even if permission to do so were granted.

The same difficulty exists with gardens belonging to houses and shops in the High Street, which back onto the old Fair Field building estate, making it difficult to assess the extent of the pottery scatter in this area. To the south of the Reigate Road, 'Persfield' has been partially investigated without archaeological excavation, with good results. Another coin of Gallianus was found in the garden at 27 Epsom Road, together with some sherds of Roman pottery.

During the considerable demolition and rebuilding which took place on the west side of the High Street between 1963-1967, it can be now said that here there was much evidence of occupation during the Roman period stretching from the Kingsway to 58 High Street. Between the Grove footpath and 58 High Street, the width of pottery scatter seems to extend into the orchard belonging to the Girls' Junior School from the building line. At a point immediately in front of the site of the old Social Club, Romano-British pottery was also encountered in sewer trenching extending into the High Street.

Unfortunately there have been no further opportunities since 1961 to investigate the possible continuation towards Ewell of the Roman road discovered during the Purberry Shot excavation. This must surely be one of the priorities of future excavation should the opportunity present itself. There is no doubt that it continued back as far as the Kingsway. Was the piece of ancient road uncovered some years ago at Henry's Garage (now Headway Motors) in the Cheam Road, part of this road? Those who examined the piece of road were certain that it was not part of Stane Street. If the date of 150 A.D. is correct for the construction of the Purberry Shot road, did this secondary road overlay other earlier settlement areas in Ewell besides that of Purberry Shot? It is very doubtful whether Capt. Lowther's theory concerning the short life of this road is correct and in view of the possibility

of later discoveries it is difficult to see how he could be so positive. It is possible the road had a normal life and the Romans had good economic reasons for constructing it.

V Staneway Chapel, Cheam Road, to the Old Church Tower

The only material evidence quoted by Winbolt for this sector was the discovery of Romano-British pottery behind the former Post Office at No. 3 Cheam Road, but this lay outside the boundary of the township he envisaged.

It is very possible that Roman material exists under the Cheam Road. Several years ago first and second century pottery rims were observed in the upcast from a trench cut across the footpath immediately in front of the garage belonging to Headway Motors.

The land occupied by Staneway Chapel, gardens belonging to houses adjacent to the Chapel and those of the Portway have never been searched methodically, nor have there been reports of Roman discoveries here.

During the 1950s at least three Roman rubbish pits were excavated in what was then known as the Rectory Garden and now occupied in part by Glyn Close. The first of these rubbish pits was situated at a point opposite the centre of the back garden belonging to the 'Sunny House' which stands on the corner of Glyn Close-Church Street. The others are immediately opposite Nos.3 and 9 Glyn Close respectively. It is understood that Capt. Anthony Lowther of Ashted was in possession of notes and illustrations relevant to these investigations, together with a complete or almost complete pottery vessel showing undulating burnished decoration upon it. This area has also produced twenty-two coins belonging mainly to the fourth century; these were all found by Mr Albert Wood who was gardener here about the turn of the present century.

In 1967 an excavation was carried out by Len Buckingham at the rear of No. 27 High Street. A considerable amount of coarse pottery mainly belonging to the second century, together with some Samian ware and other occupation material was uncovered. Almost simultaneously the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society commenced an excavation which lasted for several seasons in the garden belonging to the King William IV public house. This investigation resulted in the discovery of a number of shallow pits cut into the underlying chalk, the footings of a wall possibly belonging to a building of Roman date together with pre-Roman and Romano-British pottery and coins.

In view of what was said in the introductory note to this book regarding surface discoveries and subsequent excavation producing positive results, both the excavations at the rear of No. 27 High Street and that at the King William IV were undertaken after a search of the garden behind the latter site had resulted in a considerable quantity of grey Roman pottery sherds being found. This garden lies adjacent to ground at the back of No. 27 which was trenched to determine whether or not the pottery spread observed at the King William IV did, in fact, extend in that direction at depth. This was found to be the case and largely because of this and the fact that both areas were scheduled to become a car park, excavation was undertaken by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society.

The indications from pottery are that the entire area, bounded by High Street-Cheam Road, Church Street and Glyn Close was thickly populated during the late first and second centuries.

VI Church Street (Upper Arm) and its environs

Considerable amounts of pottery and coins have been found on both sides of the upper arm of Church Street. Two fourth century coins were discovered in the garden of No.16. Between Nos. 18 and 20, a piece of ancient road on the Nonsuch alignment of Stane Street with first and second century pottery and a coin of Constantius Chlorus, were encountered during building operations in 1965. The piece of road found in a soakaway which was being dug is 33 yards from the edge of Church Street.

The unsatisfactory investigation (no records appear to have been kept and I am indebted to Len Buckingham for the following information) by students of the Ewell Technical College to discover Stane Street in the Church Furlong took place in 1967. Some interesting facts, however, did come to light. A trench 100 feet in length and cut at right angles to the fence at No. 4 Cemetery Extension, at a point 148 feet from the field's eastern boundary, showed road metalling in the first 15 feet with a scatter of Romano-British pottery extending to a point 60 feet from the . A second trench approximately 156 feet from the western boundary of the field at a point 62 feet from the cemetery fence failed to locate the road. Subsequent investigation showed that at some period, a considerable quantity of large flints had been transported to make a raised bank which ran parallel to the fence and there were Romano-British pottery sherds in association with these flints. The pottery from the first trench consisted of 37 rim fragments of early and late date, three were of Samian and the residue of coarse ware.

No. 4 Cemetery Extension which extends in length from Church Street to the service road at the rear of Castle Parade has produced much Roman material. Stane Street was found in its north-eastern corner in 1952 by the Surrey Archaeological Society and again in 1970 by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society when there was decisive evidence that in this sector there were indications of building structures close to the line of the road. Other evidence, strongly suggesting the presence of other buildings, had been found in the 1950s when a floor composed of flints with the fragment of a box flue tile in situ were discovered 48 feet north-east of the last cross path

During the last 15 years a constant watch has been kept on grave-digging and further finds consisting of pottery fragments of quern stone, imports from Andernach and coins have been made. There have been many observers over the years and I have been able to illustrate more than 70 rim sherds, 5 coins ranging in date from the first to the fourth century. Of the rim sherds, some 7% were of Samian ware, a much higher percentage than from other sites in Ewell.

The first graves in the cemetery appear to have been dug circa 1934 and forty years later some three-quarters of the total area has been used. Winbolt reported pottery finds here in 1936 when obviously relatively few graves had been dug. We can now say that occupational evidence has been recovered from the whole length of the Cemetery although it does not appear to extend up to its western boundary.

The area is divided lengthwise by a central footpath. Whilst it has been observed that a fairly continuous scatter of pottery covers the south-eastern half and continues underneath the footpath, it extends only for about twenty to thirty feet towards the western boundary which

is at the rear of gardens belonging to houses in the London Road. It has not been possible to examine the soil surfaces of these gardens, but negative evidence came from land attached to the house named 'Woodgate' when a number of town houses were erected a few years ago. Similarly the back garden belonging to No. 35 on the opposite side of the London Road was searched without result.

Continuing in a north-easterly direction Stane Street crosses the service road behind Castle Parade, Ewell By-pass and eventually enters the plantation of Nonsuch Park in the vicinity of Briarwood Road. Keeping inside the Park boundary, it runs parallel to the modern London Road and from thence to North Cheam, Morden and London Bridge. The agger of the Roman road, a little north of Briarwood Road was excavated by Capt. Lowther in 1935. Several coins have been reported from Nonsuch Park and this whole area to the east of Stane Street, consisting of part of the Cherry Orchard field and the Park itself up to the Borough boundary of North Cheam, seems worthy of archaeological attention should the opportunity arise. Roman Ewell, well attested by the increasing finds of pottery, coins and building structures, should have possessed a sizeable burial ground or grounds, yet nothing apart from the few scattered burials have so far been located. An area such as this to the east of Stane Street, well outside the settlement, yet at no great distance from the road, could well furnish the site of such a burial ground.

The evidence, both from excavation and soil search shows that there was occupation both east and west of Stane Street and this evidence becomes densest as the road is approached. It would also appear that the negative evidence from the area north of Castle Parade seems to suggest that, at this point, was the commencement of the terminal point of the Roman settlement at Ewell.

VII Some conclusions

'It may be noted', writes Ralph Merrifield, 'that Ewell is rich in finds of the Roman period and it was clearly a place of some importance. At a distance of 13 miles from London Bridge it seems the most likely place for the first posting station out of London.'

This view is also shared by Charles S. Titford who, basing his argument on the stage distances between posting stations along Stane Street, makes out a good case for Ewell being the first posting station rather than Merton. The distance between London Bridge and Merton - 8 miles - would have been an unusually short first leg and the second stage from Merton to Dorking unduly long. Ewell is nearer Dorking and farther from London Bridge than Merton: this would make the distances between London Bridge - Ewell - Dorking much more reasonable. Natural resources and material evidence lend greater weight to Ewell being the posting station rather than Merton.

During the Roman period, a posting station was probably the nucleus of its development, its siting dependent on topography and other natural features. Ewell possessed these natural features and early man had settled here centuries before the Roman occupation. Although the construction of Stane Street could have obliterated much of the settlement, the road soon became the focal point of trade for the whole region increasing its population especially along the line of so important a commercial artery.

One of the remarkable features is the length of the Romano-British pottery scatter which appears to extend from the Old Fair Field to the Castle Parade on the Ewell By-pass. At this

southernmost point the scatter may have extended laterally towards the west almost as far as West Street. Towards the east of Stane Street the evidence is not so considerable, although pottery and coins have been discovered at Staneway House, Pit House and Seymour's Nurseries and there appears to have been some evidence of occupation at Conaways Close. The land area produced only one coin over the years and it may well be that the locations mentioned above were well outside the boundaries of Roman Ewell, Conaways Close being for one reason or another, a small outlier settlement.

Centrally, recent excavation has proved considerable occupation, especially during the late first and second centuries and this evidence has come mainly from the western side of Stane Street. Here the pottery scatter extends from the Cheam Road car park to perhaps No. 8 High Street.

Unlike Hardham, another posting station on Stane Street, which seems to have been abandoned circa 150 A.D., Ewell seems to have been occupied throughout the Roman period; this is well attested by finds of both pottery and coins. It has been suggested that since fourth century coins were more numerous, the settlement enjoyed greater prosperity in that century. This need not necessarily be true since by that time Roman coinage had become debased and there was rampant inflation. The amounts of fourth century pottery recovered seems to be about the same as that from the second and third centuries.

From the pottery evidence it would appear that Ewell grew in importance after the construction of Stane Street yet this may not have been the sole factor which contributed to its prosperity. Hardham was also a posting station with a defensive system of earthen rampart and ditch situated on this busy thoroughfare, but the site made no progress as a Roman settlement. No trace of any defensive system has even been found at Ewell and it is very doubtful whether it ever possessed one, perhaps its elongated and somewhat irregular shape suggested by the size and density of its pottery scatter made this a practical impossibility. The fact that Ewell was a Roman settlement and continued to be inhabited down through the centuries must point to its excellent natural advantages, its access to abundant water and fertile land, advantages which ensured its continuing prosperity. There is no reason why it could not have been a marketing centre for agricultural produce and livestock during the Roman period: it certainly became one in later medieval times. Sheep fairs were held here and there was a regular market day until the mid-sixteenth century.

Recent evidence would seem to suggest that in addition to the wooden-framed, clay-roofed hutments there may have been buildings of a more permanent nature closely associated with the daily business of a posting station. One might expect a mansion with its associated buildings, storehouses, stables and workshops, a communal bathhouse, perhaps even a more sophisticated dwelling housing some Roman official.

As trade increased along Stane Street, and there are indications that this did happen in the second century, more Britons would have been attracted to Ewell, either to practice some craft or trade or seeking unskilled work. Further hutments would have been erected as close to Stane Street as possible causing certain building areas to belly out irregularly.

Well outside this settlement area would be the farmsteads producing the bulk of the community's food.

Apart from agriculture, there is little evidence of organised local industry. Close by, but outside of Ewell, brickmaking seems to have flourished on the Green Man Farm estate at Horton on land now occupied by a mental hospital. The period of activity for this kiln is thought to have been from about 69 – c.150 A.D, which is roughly simultaneous with that at Ashted. In view of the good deposits of brick clay at Ewell – until recently several modern kilns were active – it is rather surprising that no kilns of Roman date have so far been discovered. During investigations on the Ewell House site many Roman bricks described as ‘wasters’ were found and the suggestion was recorded that brickmaking may have flourished here in Roman times. There are indications that the grey gault clay, much favoured by Romano-British potters is obtainable in West Ewell. With plentiful supplies of wood and water at hand, there is no reason why one or two small kilns could not have functioned, but again, there is no evidence of the activity.

This alternative view of Roman Ewell, very different in many respects from that conjectured by Winbolt, is reported by considerable evidence. Even the proposed irregular shape of the settlement has many parallels in the lay-out of other known posting stations. In a number of these the internal grid of roads is entirely lacking, whilst in others, as at Kenchester, aerial photography has shown that the principal buildings were by interior roads, these were often short and branched off the main road through the settlement. At Godmanchester, for example, such a road leads to a bath building branching off Ermine Street. At Ewell, a similar subsidiary road has been found at Tayles Hill, there is perhaps another at 56/58 High Street, both would be approximately at right angles to Stane Street. It is again unfortunate that both these roads could not be studied completely due to the rapidity of other building operations.

The search for Roman Ewell must be a continuing one. There are many problems still to be resolved, problems which can only be answered by careful excavation, untiring fieldwork and the publication of every scrap of evidence, whether it be negative or affirmative.

APPENDIX I

ROMAN COINS FOUND AT EWELL

During my research it seemed imperative to make a comprehensive list of all Roman coins reported as having been found here, together with other coins which my own field investigation or enquiry might bring to light. In 1936 Winbolt had listed some 39 plus coins in his book 'With a Spade on Stane Street' and added that he was of the opinion that many more existed. My experience in drawing up this list not only shows that Winbolt's contention was accurate but also that he had obviously overlooked some coins which had been mentioned prior to 1936.

My list is divided into two sections, those coins which have been published, some by the briefest of descriptions, and other coins, which to the best of my knowledge, have never been published. I have tried, where it was possible, to give the fullest description of the coins but where coins have already been described in detail, e.g. in volumes of the *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, I have listed them as briefly as possible.

I COINS ALREADY PUBLISHED

Perhaps the best starting point is the list of coins shown to Mill Stephenson by A.D. Henderson of 'The Mills', Ewell. These coins are fully described in Vol. 26, *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, p.135-138.

1. AUGUSTUS, (27 B.C-14 A.D.) Coin struck by TITUS (79-81 A.D.) 2 AE
2. VESPASIAN, (69-79 A.D.) COS 1111 (72 A.D.) 2 AC
Found by A.D. Henderson's grandfather in the garden of the Lower Mill, Ewell.
3. FAUSTINA, THE ELDER Wife of Antonius Pius, died 141 A.D. 1AC
4. CLAUDIUS II, GOTHICUS (268-270 A.D.)
5. CONSTANTIUS I, as CAESAR (292 – 305 A.D.) Mint-Trier Follis
6. CONSTANTINE I, (307-337 A.D.) Struck by Constantine I. Mint – Lyons 3AE
7. CONSTANTINE I, (307-337 A.D.) Struck by Constantine I. Mint – Trier 3AE
8. CONSTANS,(337-350A.D.) GLORIA EXERCITUS Mint – Trier 3 AC
9. VALENTINIAN I (364-375 A.D.) SECURITA REI PUBLICAE Mint – Arles
10. VALENTINIAN II (375-392 A.D.) Mint – Arles 4AC or minim.
11. Worn and illegible 1AE

12. MARCUS AURELIUS (?), (161-180 A.D.) Very worn and illegible. 2AE
13. VICTORINUS (?), (268-270 A.D.) Worn and illegible 3AC
14. CONSTANTINE PERIOD OR IMITATION Fel Temp Reparatic Type
15. “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “
16. “ “ “ “ Gloria Exercitus Type Mint-Trier
17. “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “
18. Unknown. Victoriae DD AVGG & NN Type
19. -21 “ Similar to No.18.
22. VALENTINIAN I VALENS OR GRATIAN (?) SECURITAS REI PUBLICAE TYPE
- 23-24 Illegible

Appended to this is a second list of 8 coins shown to Mill Stephenson by Cloudesley S. Willis.

25. HADRIAN (117-138 A.D) 2AE
26. TETRICUS (?), (268-273 A.D) 3AC
27. CLAUDIUS II, GOTHICUS, (268-270 A.D.) 3AE
28. CARAUSIUS, (287-293 A.D.)Mint-London (?) 3AE
29. CARAUSIUS, (287-293 A.D.) Mint-London 3AE
30. CONSTANTINE I (307-337 A.D) Struck by Constantine
31. CONSTANTINE Period
32. Illegible.

One of the earliest groups of Roman coins mentioned is that associated with the work of Dr. Diamond who excavated a series of cylindrical shafts or pits behind Pit House in 1847. The British Museum Accessions Register implies that these coins emanated from these shafts, but Dr. Diamond's report seems to indicate that these coins came from adjoining farmland in the immediate area and were given to him by labourers.

33. VESPASIAN (69-79 A.D.) 1AE
34. COMMODUS (189-193 A.D.) 1AE

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|-----|----------------------------------|-----|
| 35. | <u>MAXIMINUS (235-238 A.D.)</u> | 1AE |
| 36. | <u>NERO (54-68 A.D.)</u> | 2AE |
| 37. | <u>CARACALLA (212-217 A.D.)</u> | 2AE |
| 38. | <u>MAGNENTIUS (350-353 A.D.)</u> | 2AE |

In Winbolt's coin list of 1936, he draws attention to a gap of 85 years, i.e. from 180-205 A.D. for which there are no representative coins. It will be seen that coins 34, 35 and 37 above narrow this gap considerably. Winbolt must have completely overlooked these coins listed in *Archaeologia* Vol. 32. Dr Diamond also mentions a further coin belonging to the collection of Sir George Lewen Glyn which was found in the Rectory garden. I have been unable to trace the whereabouts of this collection nor do the 'Glyn Papers', purchased by the Epsom and Ewell Corporation, provide any clues.

39. ANTONIUS PIUS, (138-161 A.D.)

Other Roman coins which were probably discovered many years ago are listed in Manning and Bray, *History of Surrey*, Vol. I, p.666.

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|-----|--|--------------|
| 40. | <u>CONSTANTINE I (307-337 A.D.)</u> | Mint - Trier |
| 41. | <u>CRISPUS (317-326 A.D.)</u> BEATA TRANQUILITAS | Mint – Trier |
| 42. | <u>CONSTANS (337-350 A.D.)</u> | Mint – Trier |

All three coins are said to have been found in a Ewell garden.

Winbolt, S.E. 'With a Spade on Stane Street', p.225, lists some 39 Roman coins which have been discovered at Ewell. Full descriptions of each individual coin are not given, making it difficult to decide whether he made full use of the S.A.C. lists published in 1913. To avoid duplication, only those sites listed as being found in 1933 and those coins not mentioned in the 1913 lists are included here.

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| 43. | <u>DOMITIAN, as Caesar (77-78 A.D.)</u> Reported as being found in Church Street, Ewell. (London Times, Nov 4 th , 1933.) |
| 44. | <u>DOMITIAN, (87 A.D.)</u> COS XIII. Reported as being found at Spring House, Spring Street, Ewell, in 1933. |
| 45. | <u>DOMITIAN, (81-98 A.D.)</u> Reported as being found S.E of West Street, Ewell. |
| 46. | <u>TRAJAN (98-117 A.D.)</u> Reported as being found in Rectory Garden, see Winbolt, S.E., 'With a Spade on Stane Street', p.2331, plate 10. Rectory Garden is Glyn House Garden. |

47. GALLIENUS (265-268 A.D.) Reported as being found in Church Street, Ewell (London Times, 4th Nov. 1933).
48. GALLIENUS (265-268 A.D.) Provenance as above.
49. TETRICUS (270-273 A.D.) Found near Lych Gate, Church Street, Ewell.
50. TETRICUS (?) (270-273 A.D.) Found during Stane Street excavation, Old Fair Field, Ewell, 1934.
51. CONSTANTINE I as CAESAR (292-305 A.D.) Reported found at Glyn House, Cheam Road, Ewell, at a depth of 5 feet by E. Greuse Thomas. (This is more probably Glyn Arms, Cheam Road, Ewell).
53. CONSTANS (337-350 A.D.) Fel.Temp.Reparatic type. Mint – Arles.

Volume 26 of the S.A.C. lists 5 coins which cannot be exactly identified, but are roughly dated Constantine Period. Winbolt's list includes 9 coins in this period. I have, therefore, included 4 of these coins from his coin list.

54-57. CONSTANTINE PERIOD (306-361 A.D.)

58. VALENS (364-378 A.D.) Found in No. 3 Graveyard, Church Street, Ewell, 1936.
59. TETRICUS (270-273 A.D.) Small bronze. Found at 6, St. Norman's Way, East Ewell. TQ 2246 6217.
60. CARAUSIUS (286-293 A.D.) Found in No. 4 Graveyard, Ewell by J.W. Neville at a depth of 3 feet. Coin now in the Guildford Museum, S.A.C. Vol.48, 1943, p.154.
61. GALLIENUS (259-268 A.D.) ANTONINIANUS. Mint – Rome. Found in the garden of 'Quatrees', Staneway, Ewell by S. Dance. TQ 2265 6240. S.A.C. Vol. 49, p.111.
62. CONSTANS (337-350 A.D.) Probably a centenionalis or barbarous imitation. FEL.TEMP.REPARATIC type. Found by J. Ross at Priest Hill Farm. TQ 225 628. Mint – Trier. In Guildford Museum. S.A.C.Vol.49, 1946, p.111.
63. DOMITIAN (81-96 A.D.) Found at rear of the Castle Parade shop site. In Guildford Museum presented by F.L. Cook, 5 Castle Parade, Ewell. S.A.C. Vol. 43, 1935, pp.31-32.

The following list consists of Roman coins discovered during excavation or close to the site of excavation. I have also included coins found in association with the Roman burials at Stone's Brickfield, 1924, although strictly speaking this site is outside the Ewell boundary.

64. CLAUDIUS I (41-54 A.D.) Coin at the British Museum, S.A.C. Vol. 35, 1924,
65. TRAJAN (98-117 A.D.) Details as above.

66. CLAUDIUS I (41-54 A.D) As, imitation Antonia Type. Purberry Shot, Ewell, trench K-K, level 4, S.A.C. Vol. 50, 1949, p.43.
67. TRAJAN (98-117 A.D.) Cos 111. Purberry Shot, trench N, level I, S.A.C. Vol. 50. 1949, p.44.
68. DOMITIAN (81-96 A.D.) As (Type Cohen 647). Purberry Shot, among material filling well. S.A.C Vol. 50, 1949, p.44.
69. SEPTIMUS SEVERUS (192-211 A.D) 2 AE. Garden on western boundary of Purberry Shot. S.A.C. Vol. 50, 1949, p.46.
70. TETRICUS (270-211 A.D) Pax type 4 AE. Surface find by workman. S.A.C. Vol. 50, 1949, p.41.

In his excavation report at Purberry Shot, Capt. Lowther states that 'the latest coin found was a denarius of HADRIAN, but as there appears to be no further mention of this coin, I have omitted it from this list.

71. VESPASIAN (69-79 A.D.) Sestertius (type Cohan 436). Found in the garden at 'Cedar Keys', the house adjoining Purberry Shot, Epsom Road, Ewell. S.A.C Vol. 50, 1949, p.44.
72. VESPASIAN (71 A.D.). As Cos 111. Found as above. S.A.C Vol. 50, 1949, p.44.
73. DOMITIAN (81-96 A.D.) As (Type Cohen 647. Found in West Street, Ewell. S.A.C Vol. 50, 1949, p.44.
74. TITUS (79-81 A.D.) 2 AE. Found in the orchard at rear of Ewell County First School, West Street, Ewell, by C.J,Willis.
75. CONSTANTINE (306-337 A.D) GLORIA EXERCITUS type. Mint-Trier. Coin is in the British Museum.

The following was found in Stone's Brickfield in 1923, but unassociated with coins 64 and 65 from the burial group.

76. CONSTANTIUS CHLORUS (292-305 A.D.) Winbolt, S.E., 'With a Spade on Stane Street', 1936, p.156. Antiquaries Journal, July 1924, p.275.

II. COINS UNPUBLISHED

Since 1960 a considerable number of Roman coins which have been found locally have been shown to me. They were discovered by local residents in their gardens or by workmen during their daily tasks. Most of these coins have never been published although I have reported the majority to the Archaeological Division of the Ordnance Survey, to whom I am indebted for bringing some coins to my notice of which I had no record.

77. CONSTANS (346-350 A.D.)

OBV. Diademed head of Emperor.

REV. FEL.TEMP.REPARATIO. Emperor standing in galley. Standard with 'chi-rho' monogram emblazoned upon it. Garden of No.16 Church Street, Ewell. Coin in possession of finder, Mrs J. Huxtable.

78. ARCADIUS (383-388 A.D.)

OBV. –

REV. Two Victories facing. Provenance and finder 'as above'.

79. CLAUDIUS II GOTHICUS (268-270 A.D.)

OBV. Bust of Emperor to R. radiate crown.

REV. LIBERT (AS). Libertas holding cup and sceptre. (Commemorative issue struck after Emperor's death (R.I.C.279 A.D.). Garden of Ewell Grove House. Found by the late Mr C. Major, Whist's gardener.

80. CONSTANTINE I (307-337 A.D.) (?) (Portrait could be of one of his sons).

OBV. Emperor's bust to R.

REV. GLORIA EXERCITUS. Two soldiers between two standards. Provenance and finder 'as above.'

81. HOUSE OF CONSTANTINE (306-361 A.D.)

OBV. Diademed head of Emperor to R.

REV. FEL.TEMP.REPARATIO. Legionary spearing fallen horseman. No.3Graveyard, path edge near present St. Mary's Church. TQ 2209 6288. Found by Mr R. Orton, March 1965.

82. MAXIMINIANUS (286-305 A.D.) Follis

OBV.IMP.MAXIMINIANUS P AVG

REV. GENIO POPULI ROMANI. Roman genius stand No.4 Graveyard (Grave G 119). Mint – PLN (London). Finder 'above'.

83. CONSTANTIUS II (337-361 A.D.)

OBV. –

REV. Found at the Old Sewage Farm (near Ewell West Station) by Mr R. Barthe.

84. CLAUDIUS II GOTHICUS (268-270 A.D.)
OBV. -
REV. - Provenance and finder 'as above'
85. CONSTANS (337-350 A.D.)
OBV. Helmeted head to R.
REV. - No. 4 Graveyard, (Grave J.77). Found by Mr R. Orton, June 1964.
86. TRAJAN (98-117 A.D.)
OBV -
REV. - No. 4 Graveyard, (Grave J.54). Finder 'as above' January 1966.
87. VALENS (364-378 A.D.)
OBV. -
REV. GLORIA ROMANORUM. Emperor dragging captive and holding standard. Mint - Arles No. 4 Graveyard. Finder 'as above', October 1966.c.f Late Roman Bronze Coinage II, No. 480.
88. MAGNENTIUS (350-353 A.D.)
OBV. D.N.MAGNENTIUS. Bust of Emperor to R.
REV. FELICITAS REI PUBLICAE. Standard bearer looking L. holding labrum emblazoned with 'chi-rho' in monogram in one hand, a serpent in the other. Mint - PPLG (Lyons). Found at Glyn Huse TQ 2203 6273, by Mr J. King, late Head Gardener, Sept. 1961.
89. GALLIENUS (253-268 A.D.)
OBV -
REV. - Found by Mr R.Kinder, 27 Epsom Road, Ewell TQ 219 621.
90. TETRICUS (270-273 A.D.)
OBV. IMP.CAES.TERRICUS F.F.AUGG. Radiate head of Emperor to R.
REV. Probably figure of Hope facing L with torch in left hand and staff in right hand. Found by Mrs J.E. Gibson in the garden of 'Chalk Pit House'. Mongers Lane, Ewell.

91. CONSTANTINUS II, as CAESAR (320-324 A.D.) 3AE
- OBV. D.N.CONSTANTINE F.F AUG Diademed head of Emperor
- REV. BEATA TRANQUILITAS Altar inscribed VOTIS XX. Surmounted by a globe and three stars C.E. in field (Master of the Mint) Mint – PLG (Lyons). Found in the garden of 66 Cheam Road, Ewell by M.J. Brancker.
92. CONSTANS (337-350A.D.)
- OBV. Emperor in late regalia.
- REV. A stag found by Mr I.J. West, 29 Cox Lane, West Ewell, in Cherry Orchard Farm, Nonsuch Park.
93. MAGNENTIUS (350-353 A.D.)
- OBV. D.N.MAGNENTIUS. Bust of Emperor to R.
- REV. FELICITAS REI PUBLICAE. Mint – PAR (ARLES) Found in the garden of 22 Cheam Road, Ewell by Dr. A. Burkhardt, October 1962.
94. VESPASIAN (75 A.D)
- OBV. IMP.CAES.VESPASIANUS AUG. Laureated head of Emperor to R.
- REV. Probably seated figure of PAX with olive branch. PON,MAX.COS VI. Mint – TRP (Trier) found in Nonsuch Park by Mr Milne.
95. CONSTANTINE I (307-337 A.D.)
- OBV. –
- REV. SOLI INVICTO COMIT....Sun god standing. Mint – PLN (London). Found by Mrs N. Hind in the garden of 18 Conaways Close, Ewell.
96. CONSTANTINE I (307-337 A.D)
- OBV. –
- REV. MARTI CNSERVATORI. Mint T/f/PIR (Trier) Found by Mr. D.E.Johnson in the garden of 34 Station Avenue, West Ewell, Ewell. March
97. Radiate
- OBV. –
- REV. Sacrificial vessels. Probably a British imitation. Found by Mr W. Watkinson when gardener at Bourne Hall. TQ 218 626.

98. Illegible Sestertius

OBV. –

REV. Victory writing on a shield. Found in the grounds of Glyn House, TQ 2Q 2204 6278 by late Head Gardener, Mr J. King, September 1967.

99. TETRICUS (270-273 A.D.) Barbarous imitation

OBV. Radiate head of Emperor

REV. Probably of the 'Pax' type. Found on the surface at 'Persfield', Epsom Road, Ewell by the writer. TQ 2194 6225.

100. ARCADIUS (383-388 A.D.)

OBV. D.N.ARCADIUS P F AUG

REV. Victory advancing L holding wreath and palm. Found by the writer in the grounds of Glyn House, October 1961. TQ 221 628

101. CONSTANTIUS CHLORUS (292-305 A.D)

OBV. -

REV. - Church Street, Ewell. TQ 2210 6289. Found by a labourer on the surface.

102. HADRIAN (117-138 A.D.)

OBV. -

REV. – Found during re-development of the 'Lord Nelson' site, High Street, Ewell. Coin seen and identified by British Museum but subsequently lost.

103. ILLEGIBLE

OBV. E US P F AUG

REV. - Presumably a barbarous imitation, third century A.D. Found by Miss P.M. Davies in the garden of No. 3 Conaways Close, Ewell.

104. CONSTANS (337-350 A.D.) (?)

OBV. CONSTAN(S) Diademed and draped bust to R.

REV. Two standing figures facing. Provenance and finder 'as above'.

The following 5 coins were found in the area now known as Castle Parade, Ewell By-pass, in garden allotments. The finds took place over a period of time, but prior to 1936 when they were presented to the Guildford Museum I have been unable to trace any book references to these coins.

105. CARAUSIUS (287-293 A.D.)

106. ARCADIUS (383-388 A.D.)

107. ALLECTUS (293-296 A.D.)

108. VALENS (364-378 A.D.)

109. GRATIAN (367-383 A.D.)

I am indebted to C.W. Phillips of the Archaeological Division of Ordnance Survey for information concerning the following 3 coins:-

110. CARAUSIUS (287-293 A.D.) TQ 2228 6238

111. CARAUSIUS (287-293 A.D.) TQ 2231 6251

112. CARAUSIUS (287-293 A.D.) TQ 2234 6241

The following coins were found by Tom Walls during the partial excavation of a Roman rubbish pit in the grounds of Glyn House in 1950. I am indebted to him for both allowing me to see the coins and for placing at my disposal the information concerning them. The catalogue numbers quoted refer to Seaby's 'Roman Coins and their Values', by D.R. Sear.

113. GRATIAN (367-383 A.D.)

OBV. D N GRATIANUS AUGG AUG

REV. SECURITAS REI PUBLICAE. Victory advancing. Mint - LUG P (Lyons). Catalogue Type 4043. TQ 22104 62807 at a depth of 2 ft. 6 in.

114. CONSTANTIUS II (337-361 A.D.)

OBV. Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust to R.

REV. FEL TEMP REPARATIO. Soldier advancing spearing fallen horseman. Mint - C FLG (Lyons). Catalogue Type 3910. At depth of 3 feet.

115. CONSTANTIUS II (337-361 A.D.)

OBV. Laureated and cuirassed bust to R.

REV. GLORIA EXERCITUS. Two soldiers standing either side of a standard. Mint - SMNT (Nicomedia) Catalogue Type 3887 (or more likely) 3898.

116. CONSTANTIUS II (337-361 A.D.)

As above but barbaric copy.

117. CONSTANTIUS II (337-361 A.D.)

Commemorative issue 330 - 346 A.M.

OBV. URBS ROMA. Helmeted bust of ROMA L. wearing imperial mantle.

REV. Two stars over she-wolf standing L suckling ROMULUS and REMUS.

During 1967, 22 Roman coins came to me for examination. In order that they might be positively identified I forwarded the collection to the Guildhall Museum. On making enquiries from Mrs W. Wood of Hastings I learned that the coins had been found over a period of years by her late husband when gardener at the Old Rectory, Ewell.

118. JULIA DONNA (WIFE OF SEPTIMUS SEVERUS) (193-211 A.D.)

OBV. IULIA AUGUSTA Bust facing R.

REV. PIETAS PUBLICA. Pietas standing with hands raised.

119. VICTORINUS (265-270 A.D.) Barbarous copy.

120. TETRICUS (270-273 A.D.)

OBV. –

REV. HILARITAS type.

121. Illegible

OBV. Radiate

REV. –

122. Illegible

OBV. Radiate

REV. –

123. Illegible

OBV. Radiate

REV. FORTUNA Type(?)

124. HOUSE OF CONSTANTINE (c. 325-350 A.D.)

125. CONSTANTINE.

OBV. –

REV. SECURITAS REI PUBLICAE

126. CONSTANTIUS II AS CAESAR (330-335 A.D.)

OBV. F.L.IUL CONSTANTIUS NOB C

REV. GLORIA EXERCITUS

Mint – TRS (Trier) Hill – ‘Late Roman Bronze Coinage’, Part I, No. 64.

127. CONSTANTIUS II AS CAESAR (330-335 A.D.)

As above.

128. CONSTANTIUS II AS CAESAR (330-335 A.D.)

OBV. F L IUL CONSTANTINUS NOB C

REV. GLORIA EXERCITUS

Mint – S Cons (Arles). Hill – ‘Late Roman Bronze Coinage’, Part I, No. 354

129. CONSTANTINE II (335-337 A.D.)

OBV. CONSTANTINUS IUN NC

REV. GLORIA EXERCITUS

Mint – TRF (Trier). Hill – ‘Late Roman Bronze Coinage, Part I’, No. 88.

130. CONSTANTIUS II (341-346 A.D.)

OBV. CONSTANTIUS P F AUG

REV. VICTORIAE D D AUGG QNN

Mint – TRP (Trier). Hill ‘Late Roman Bronze Coinage, Part I, No. 161.

131. CONSTANTINOPOLIS (330-335 A.D.)

OBV. CONSTANTINOPOLIS

REV. Victory on prow of ship. Mint - TRP (Trier). Hill ‘Late Roman Bronze Coinage’, Part I, No. 66.

132. CONSTANTINE II (AS CAESAR, (330-335 A.D.)
OBV.CONSTANTINUS IUN NOB C
REV.GLORIA EXERCITUS
Mint – PLG (Lyons). Hill ‘Late Roman Bronze Coinage’, Part I, No., 51.
133. URBS ROMA (330-335 A.D.)
OBV. URBS ROMA
REV. Wolf and twin. Mint – TRS (Trier). Hill ‘Late Roman Bronze Coinage’,
Part I, No. 51.
134. URBS ROMA (330-337 A.D.)
OBV. URBS (ROMA) Helmeted bust to L.
REV. Wolf suckling twins, two stars above. COHEN 17. SEABY R 2871
135. CONSTANTINE II (335-337 A.D.)
OBV. F L IUL CONSTANTIUS NOB C
REV. GLORIA EXERCITUS
Hill, ‘Late Roman Bronze Coinage’, Part I, No.84.
136. HELENA, MOTHER OF CONSTANTINE I (337-341 A.D.)
OBV F L IUL HELENAE AUG
REV. PAX PUBLICA
Hill, ‘Late Roman Bronze Coinage’, Part I No. 129.
137. GRATIAN (367-375 A.D.)
OBV. D N GRATIANUS AUGG AUG
REV. GLORIA ROMANORUM
138. GRATIAN (367-375 A.D.)
OBV -
REV. GLORIA ROMANORUM
139. VALENTINIAN I (367-375 A.D.)
OBV. –

REV. GLORIA ROMANORUM. Victory with wreath and palm.

140. GALLIENUS (259-268 A.D.)

OBV GALLIENUS AUG. Antoninianus. Radiate head of Emperor to R.

REV. LIBERO P CONS AUG. Panther walking L. Mint – 1/B (Rome). Found in churchyard, Ewell, by Mr S.Willy, 'St Rogue', 17 Globe Road, Cramond, Barnton, Edinburgh 4.

The following coins have all been found during scientific excavation by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society:-

141. AUGUSTUS (27 B.C.- 14 A.D.) Sestertius

OBV. –

REV. - Found on Carpenter's Old Bakery site. TQ 2198 6267

142. VESPASIAN (77 A.D.)

OBV. (CAESAR VESPASIAN) AUG COS VIII P P

REV. PROVIDENT (IA). S.C. Large altar. Found on King William IV site, High Street, Ewell.

143. CONSTANTIUS II (337-361 A.D.)

OBV. –

REV. – Found as above.

144. VESPASIAN (69-79 A.D.)

OBV. (IMP) CAESAR VESPASIAN (AUG)

REV. (COS ITER TR) POT. Pax seated L holding branch and caduceus.

145. FAUSTINA (141-161 A.D.) Commemorative Sesterius

OBV. (DI) VA FAU(STINA)

REV. Eternity seated L. holding phoenix and sceptre.

146. POSTUNUS (259-268A.D.) Antoninianus

OBV. IMP C POSTUMUS P F AUG

REV.VICTOR. Virtue standing L

147. CLAUDIUS II GOTHICUS (268-270 A.D.)

OBV. IMP CLAUDIUS P F AUG

REV. FELIC.....TEMPO Felicity standing L.

148. CONSTANTINE I (307-337 A.D.) Follis

OBV. IMP CONSTANTIUS AUG

REV. VICTORIAE LAETAE PRING PERP. Two victories resting on an altar PR Mint – PLN (London).

149. CONSTANTINE I (307-337 A.D.)

OBV - Follis

REV SOLI INVICTO. Sol.standing L. Mint – PTE (Trier)

150. CARACALLA (211-217 A.D.)

OBV. DEUS AUG

REV. PROVID. Found in the orchard belonging to the Ewell County First School, West St, September 1970.

OBSERVATIONS

It is noticeable that the majority of these coins are of fourth century date, and, of these, those belonging to the first half of that century are more numerous. The remainder of the coins seem to be fairly divided between the first, second and third centuries.

Approximately 27% of the coins possess legible mint marks:- Trier 16, Lyons 6, Arles 6, London 4, Rome 2, Nicomedia 1.

Perhaps the most significant factor of all is that, where the provenance of coins is known, the majority emanate from areas within 100 yards east and west of the line of Stane Street.

APPENDIX II

SOME NOTES ON POTTERS' STAMPS FOUND ON SAMIAN WARE AT EWELL.

According to a transcript of the British Museum's Acquisition Register of General Antiquities, the following potters' stamps were recorded as having been found on Samian ware from the Ewell Shafts or Pits in 1847 and 1860:-

ALBUS OFIC, BUTUR O, CONGIM, PATERCI Ma, and OF PATERCI

PECUI, RUFI, SOLIUS, URBANUS TIBERIUS, VITALIS CF.

1. ALBUS OFIC i.e. ALBUS of La Graufesenque. Claudius-Nero (41-68 A.D.)

OSWALD, F. 'Index of potters' stamps on terra sigillata' 1964 is unable to give the Form of this vessel from the fragment on which the stamp appears.

Vessels belonging to the following forms and stamped with this potter's name have been found in the British Isles:-

15, 16, 17, 18, 24/25, 27 and 33.

Of these Forms, 18 is the most numerous (8 examples in the British Isles, 3 of which are from London sites. There are 5 examples of Form 27, 2 of which are from London and 2 examples of Form 3.

2. BUTURO i.e. BUTURO of Lezoux. Domitian-Trajan (81-117 A.D.)

This potter's activity was chiefly in Trajan's reign. The form of this vessel is given as Form 31 by Oswald, a dish in plain Samian ware. London examples signed by this potter are of Forms 18 and 33.

3. CONGIM, i.e. CONGIUS. of Lesoux. Domitian - Hadrian (81-138 A.D.)

No form is given for this Ewell vessel in the Index. The following forms, signed by this potter, have been found in the British Isles:- 18, 18/31, 27, 31, 33 and 38. Of these, Form 33 is the most common (9 examples, including 2 from London). Other Forms from London are:- Form 18 (one example) 18/31 (2 examples)

4. OF PATERCI PATERCI MA i.e. PATERCLOS (or) PATERCLUS of Lesoux. Domitian-Hadrian (81-138 A.D.)

According to Oswald, the Form of these Ewell vessels is unknown. Forms signed by this potter in the British Isles include:- 15, 18, 18/31, 27, 33, 37. Of these Form 18 is most common (10 examples from London).

5. PECULi.e.PECULIARIS of Lezoux. Domitian-Hadrian (81-138 A.D.)

No form given for the Ewell vessel fragment. Forms encountered in the British Isles signed by this potter include:- 18, 18/31, 27,31, 33, 38, 79 and 80. Form 33 is commonest (14 examples, 7 from London).

6. RUFI i.e.RUFUS OF La Graufesenque and Montrons. Nero-Vespasian (54-79 A.D.)

Oswald also includes another stamp of this potter OF.RUFI (sic) which is not mentioned in the transcript of the B.M.Acquisitions Register. the location is only given (Ewell) (sic), it is not certain that this signed fragment came from Shafts. The Form of the vessels from which both fragments came is unknown. Other vessels signed by this potter and found in the British Isles consist of:- 18, 18/31, 24/25, 27, 29 and 33. Of these Form 27 is the most common (21 examples, 8 from London).

7. SOLLUS, i.e SOLLIUS, SOLLO, SOLLUS of Rheinzaubern.Period:Hadrian- Antonine, (117-192 A.D.)

The form of the Ewell vessel is unknown. Only one example recorded in the British Isles is that of FORM 27 from Silchester. Formss 31, 32,33 and 36 have been found on the Continent

URBANUS TIBERIUS This is probably an error in transcription. Oswald does list URBANUS of South Gaul and later of Lezoux, also TIBERIUS.of Lezoux.

8. URBANUS, i.e.URBANUS of South Gaul and later of Lezoux.

Period, Claudius-Vespasian, (41-79 A.D.) Ewell is the only site in the British Isles where this potter's stamp had been found. Forms from European sites signed by URBANUS are Ritterling Form 5 and Dragendorff Forms 18 and 18/3.

9. TIBERIUS, i.e.TIBERIUS OF Lezoux. Period Trajan-Antonine (98-161 A.D.)

Forms from the British Isles include 18/31, 27, 31, 33 and 38. Form 27 is most common. Only one vessel of Form 38 comes from London.

10. VITALIS of i.e.VITALIS of LaGraufesenque. Period, Claudius-Domitian (41-96 A.D.)

Oswald also includes in his Index two other variations of this potter's stamp for Ewell, VITALIS and VITA. VITA is mentioned in a detailed inventory of the pottery by the B.M.i.e Fragment No. 6. Other sites where vessels or fragments of vessels signed VITA have been

discovered include:- Brecon, Chester, Colchester, London (5 examples), Silchester, Wroxeter and York.

A further study of the B.M inventory of the pottery also shows the signatures INUS and LIBERA F (sic)

No. 8 Samian ware. Dish INUS 7 inches diameter.

No. 9 Samian ware Dish LIBERA F 9 ½ inches diameter.

INUS can only be part of a signature, perhaps PRIMUS of Montans and La Graufesenque, who worked during the period CLAUDIUS-VEASPASIAN (41-79 A.D.). There is, however, another PRIMUS of Avecourt, who was active during the Hadrianic and late Antonine period.

LIBERA F MAY ALSO BE ONLY PART OF A SIGNATURE. It could belong to either LIBERALIS of Montans, who worked during the first century A.D., or LIBERALIS of Lezoux (?), Hadrianic period or LIBERALIS of Rheinzabern, Antonine period. It is perhaps understandable that dating and identification of Samian ware was difficult in the mid-nineteenth century, but nowadays when our knowledge of Roman ceramics is so much greater provided the sherds of Samian ware are large enough, it should be possible for specialists to establish forms of vessels from fragments, place of manufacture, their approximate size and perhaps even their potter's name, when the vessels are decorated.

OBSERVATIONS

It would appear that these signed fragments from the Ewell shafts came from South and Central Gaul in equal quantities.

Of these 14 fragments, apparently only 2 were sufficiently large enough for the Form of the vessel to be identified with any certainty.

A further examination of the detailed B.M. Acquisitions Register shows that :- No. 1 is a circular bowl in Samian ware with a double frieze of animals in relief. No. 2 is also a circular bowl with ancient lead rivets. No. 3 again a circular bowl, fragments of which are decorated with 'men drinking'. It would appear, that at some time, fragments of these three bowls and perhaps a fourth, were assembled making complete or almost complete vessels. I have in my possession a photograph of what I believe are bowls Nos. 1-3 mentioned above, and a drawing of a fourth hemispherical bowl which appears to be complete.. The Form of all four vessels looks to be 37. It seems extraordinary, therefore, that none of these vessels has produced a potter's signature, but even if this is so, a thorough study of the decoration and Oswald's 'Index to figure types on Samian ware' should give some clue to their identity.

PURBERRY SHOT

The fragments from the Purberry Shot excavation bore the following potter's stamps:

1. CETUS FE i.e. CETUS (or) CETUS of Lezoux Trajan-Hadrian (98-138 A.D.)
This stamp appeared on a dish for Form 18/31. An identical stamp appeared on a vessel of Form 31 from Wroxeter.

2. KALENDIO i.e. ENDIO (or) KALENDIO of Lezoux.
Hadrian (117-138 SA.D.) On a dish of Form 18/31.

3. LITTERAF i.e. LITTERA of Lezoux. Flavian (69-98 A.D.)
On Form 18/31 Oswald lists Form 31 (Ewell B.M.) under LITTERA F, but the Index contains no signed Samian ware from Purberry Shot. This signed fragment must come from another Ewell site.

4. PAT(ER F) i.e. PATER of Lezoux. Hadrian – Antonine (117-192 A.) Form 35 or 37.

5. F VA (XTI) i.e. VAXTIUS of South Gaul. Period Nero-Vespasian (54-79 A.D.)

Oswald lists two potters of this name. The second worked in East Gaul during the Antonine period. Capt. Lowther dates this fragment as ‘early’, therefore it should perhaps be assigned to the earlier potter.

6. (M) AGNUS (S.F.) i.e. MAGNUS OF Heiligenberg and Kraherwald. Period Trajan – Hadrian (98-138 A.D.) On Form 33.

EWELL GROVE FIRST SCHOOL

1. (CAUPIR) RA MA i.e. (?) CAUPIRRA OF Lezoux. Antonine (138-192 A.D.)

On Form 18/31 from Cutting V. CAUPIERRA M (retro) appears on a vessel of Form 18/31 from Wroxeter.
2. PATERNI (retro) i.e. PATERNUS of Lezoux. Trajan-Antonine (198-192 A.D.)

On Form from Cutting I. PATERNI N (retro), also appears on a vessel of Form 37 from Rouen.
3. PATERATI OF i.e. PATERATUS of Lezoux. Hadrian-Antonine (117-192 A.D.)
4. (SIN)TURUS of Lezoux. Trajan-Antonine (98-192 A.D.)

On Form 31, Cutting V. Stamp has swallow tail termination.

KING WILLIAM IV SITE, SECTION AT REAR OF 25 HIGH STREET.

1. COCURO i.e. COCURUS of Lezoux. Trajan-Hadrian 98-138 A.D.)

This fragment is from the base of a small vessel probably of Form 33. Oswald lists under COCURO a vessel of Form 18 (London). Vessels of Form 33 signed COCURO F are listed for London (B.M.), Wroxeter and York.

I am very aware that this Section must be incomplete. A considerable number of excavations have been carried out by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, but until detailed reports have been published I am unable to bring this list up-to-date.

APPENDIX III

Transcript from the British Museum Acquisitions – general antiquities (Register) November 1845- December 1849. Vol. I.

(Contents of Romano-British pits excavated by Dr. H.W. Diamond, 1847)

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. Samian ware | Circular bowl with double frieze of animals |
| 2. “ “ | “ “ “ ancient lead rivets |
| 3. “ “ | “ “ fragments. Men drinking. |
| 4. “ “ | Fragment, scrowl ornament and hares |
| 5. “ “ | “ bas relief with figures bringing offerings. |
| 6. “ “ | “ half of small cup (signed) VITA 3¾ inches diameter |
| 7. “ “ | “ small cup, 2 vine leaves, 1¼ inches long. |
| 8. “ “ | Dish (signed) INUS, 7 inches diameter |
| 9. “ “ | “ “ LIBERA F, 9½ inches diameter. |
| 10. “ “ | Decomposed |
| 11. Common Red Ware | Seven fragments of cup-bands. |
| 12. “ “ “ | Twelve “ “ “ |
| 13. “ “ “ | Cup, Circular ornament, 5 inches diameter. |
| 14. “ “ “ | Bottomless bowl, 6 inches diameter |
| 15. “ “ “ | Seven fragments of cup, 5 inches diameter |
| 16. “ “ “ | Three fragments of flat cup, 4¾ inches diameter |

17. “ “ “ Ten fragments of fluted cup.
18. Romano-British Urn Black ware, 5 inches high.
19. “ “ “ “ “ round it, zigzag, 5 inches high
20. “ “ “ “ “ 3 inches high.
21. Romano-British Urn Black ware, plain $\frac{3}{4}$ inches high.
22. “ “ “ Neck of urn in two pieces, $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches high
23. “ “ “ Seven fragments of urn – a body band 4 inches diameter.
24. “ “ “ Neck of vase. Two fragments, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high.
25. “ “ “ Foot of vase, $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches high.
26. “ “ “ Complete urn with charcoal and iron $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high
27. “ “ “ Five fragments of urn, with bead and thorn ornament.
28. “ “ “ Nine fragments of urn. Perpendicular rows of knobs.
29. “ “ “ One fragment of urn, slightly different.
30. “ “ “ “ “ “ , rows slanting
31. “ “ “ “ “ “ , 6 inches high
32. “ “ “ “ “ “ , slightly different
33. “ “ “ Fourteen fragments of urn withlike thorns.
34. “ “ “ One fragment of urn withlike thorns, 6 inches diameter.
35. “ “ “ One fragment, with band of small circles $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches high.
36. “ “ “ One fragment, bands crossing $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches.
37. “ “ “ Three fragments, with 3 concentric semi-circles.
38. Half an urn, plain and broken $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches high.
39. Bottom of urn $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter
40. Fragment from plain urn, 2 inches diameter.
41. Neck of urn, hatched marks, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter
42. Fragment of body of urn with thumb marks, 3 inches diameter.
43. “ “ “ “ leaves in bas relief, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter

44. “ “ “ “ stag in bas relief, 2 inches high
45. “ neck; band thorny, 4 1/4 inches diameter.
46. “ body; band thorny, 3 3/4 inches diameter.
47. Deep flat-paters
48. Deep flat paters, another in two pieces
49. “ “ “ , in six pieces
50. Light brown ware, Neck of bottle, 2 3/4 inches high.
51. “ “ “ , redder, 4 inches high.
52. “ “ “ , like a pepper box, 3 1/2 inches high.
53. “ “ “ , two fragments with thumb marks, 3 inches high.
54. Mortar. On one LUGUDU FACTUS, another URBANUS, TIBER F.
55. Lip of similar vessel – on which SOLIUS.
56. Blank
57. Handle of vessel of purple glass, 4 inches long.
58. “ “ green glass, 2 1/2 inches long.
59. “ “ greenish glass, 2 inches long
60. Iron rod in two pieces, 2 feet 7 inches long.
61. Iron adze head, 4 1/2 inches long.
62. Iron chisel, 4 inches long
63. Iron pick, 3 inches long
64. Iron nail, 5 1/4 inches long
65. Iron nail 6 inches long
66. Iron nail, 4 inches long
67. Iron nail, 2 inches long
68. Bronze fibula
69. “ “

70. Tongue of fibula

71. Ring

72. Fragment of boss (of) a buckler

73. A bone pin

74. Case of bones of animals found with above.

75. Case with specimens of earth, shells etc.